Georgia Editors Say:

NESTS OF INTOLERANCE

(From the Augusta Chronicle)

That Ku K[illegible] Klan m[illegible]g at Porterdale the other day, when Eugene Talmadge, as a special guest at the klavern, gave vent to his instinctive intolerance, continues to rankle in our bosom. . . . Unless the people of Georgia unitedly and with considerable force, voice their disapproval of this new plot to disturb the peaceful relations of the various groups and races of our people, these nests of intolerance and bigotry will soon be hatching new birds of prey to plague us and array class against class and race against race.

Talmadge no doubt found a receptive audience in the hooded followers of the Klan, because the modern Ku Kluxer, unless he has changed, stands for the same principles that Eugene Talmadge does. It is enough to arouse the anger and ire of broadminded, enlightened and tolerant Georgians to know that Talmadge centered his fire on Secretary Cordell Hull for his advocacy of neighborliness and good will, and on the Jews and the Catholics who fled to this country to escape the brutality and intolerance of Adolf Hitler.

If we are going to win the fight for tolerance, brotherhood and good will, we must lash out at their enemies every time they appear on the scene. They were there in person at that Porterdale meeting, where Eugene Talmadge attempted to put back together the pieces of his broken political career. Apparently he has not changed one whit since he was defeated for Governor last summer; we should know him for what he is, and be ready to thwart any comeback that he might attempt to make, trading, as usual, on the prejudices and fancied dislikes of certain groups of our citizens.

Ku Klux Klan Appeals for Members via the Mails

Reprinted herewith is a facsimile of a card being distributed through the mails purportedly by the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, P. O. Box 5112, Baltimore. Although the appeal here is for "white protestant, native-born American citizens," this notice was sent to a colored minister.

(Reproduced As Printed)

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

THE KU KLUX KLAN

Does, without equivocation, stand ridigly behind the Constitution of the United States of America.

This significent document is the fundamental law of the land. It is the statement of [illegible] principles that underline our laws, traditions and history. Without a thorough knowledge of the Constitution, history becomes unintelligable and intelligent citizenship is impossible.

Our Nation demands that its' ideals, traditions and institutions be strengthened, and expects a favorable return from all Americans for the privileges granted. We must insist upon the practice of protective and constructive liberty, ere liberty be killed with liberty.

If we are to endure, all subversive activity must cease, and the rights of Government and indivdual must be held inviolate, both from legal and ethical point of view. Objection to the Klan emanates from dark crevices of cunning and evil, and in some quarters where we are misunderstood.

The Klan, however continues to safe-guard America, and establish a basic fundamental of spiritually, in the heart and soul of our beloved Republic.

If you are a white protestant native born American Citizen join this Crusade. Place your name and address on the reverse and mail to, Knights of The Ku Klux Klan, P. O. Box 5112, Baltimore, Md.

Birmingham and Mobile being focal points for their activities."

"Resolute political demagogues are utili ing every available minute in their efforts to win converts to their cause. In office retreats, bridge circles, church cl bs meetings, dining salons, hotel lobbies, pullman lounge and observation cars, on buses, and on the streets, the order of the day is 'keep the Negro in his place'."

Social Equality Bugaboo

To the question "What does the average Southerner mean by keeping the Negro in his place?" the reply was "Reactionary Southerners mean that the Negro should be kept on a lower economic and social level than whites, and should not be permitted to exercise the right of franchise. However, fearing that they may not be able to win a substantial number of converts on the question of the right of the white man to deny equal privileges and opportunities to Negroes, they very conveniently make 'social equality' the burning issue. 'You don't want your daughter to marry a n - - - - r, do you?' is the skeleton they pull from the closet in an attempt to frighten those who would advocate fairness and justice for colored people."

In a correlated story these two whites told of the visit of the governor of Alabama to Washington during October to insist that Washington let the South handle what was regarded as its own problems, especially the Negro problem.

It was further averred that the governor was guest of honor at a dinner given by Vice-Chairman Oscar R. Ewing of the Democratic National Committee at the Carlton hotel, and the "Negro question" was the topic of discussion. Practically the entire Alabama congressional delegation was present. Among the others was an administration assistant to the President, who was there to defend the administration against accusations of "Negro-loving" policies.

Attack FEPC

One certain congressman from this state is said to have made a strongly-worded speech against Negroes, even outdoing Congressman Rankin of Mississippi. This particular Alabama representative seems to be closely associated with the Mississippi congressman. Copies of several of Congressman Rankin's fascist-like tirades stigmatizing the Negro group have been widely distributed in Alabama through the office of the Alabama representative in question.

The Fair Employment Practice Committee is one of the agencies which was said to have been subjected to a scathing attack at the dinner.

The Negro leader interviewed expressed disappointment in the attitude of "pretentious and incompetent pseudo-leaders of the Negro group toward problems of the race." He charged them with being apathetic, and imputed that they are merely interested in "feathering their nests" to an extent that they and their children "may [illegible] the stronger fetters of bondage which shall surely [illegible]iously bind the Negro in the post-war period, unless there is an immediate awakening and effectuation of intelligent plans to thwart the cunning designs of the Negrophobes."

He further stated that such plans must be devised by a courageous and determined leadership, and the support and cooperation of organized labor and liberal whites should be sought by those who will assume the responsibility of leading the Negro out of the wilderness.

Ala. Anti-Negro Drive Plotted By Kluxers

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

By JOHN LeFLORE
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

MOBILE, Ala. — During the past fortnight three prominent white liberals and one Negro leader in north and south Alabama have been interviewed by the Defender on the so-called "race question."

To name the men at this time would betray the implicit faith reposed [illegible] writer and perhaps do injury to the cause of justice for minority groups, which they espouse.

One of the whites warned of an obviously falling barometer in race relations in Alabama—and throughout the South, as a possible prelude to a step-up in the intensity of racial antagonism.

He added that the interracial committee is antiquated, and has little to show to justify its continued existence. He described the whites usually found on such committees as the type who are not going to "put themselves on the spot" fighting the Negro's battles, and felt that Negro members are often of the same hue. "Vigorous and forthright interracial cooperation is urgently needed in the South today," he asserted.

Anti-Negro Plot

The two other white liberals, who were jointly interviewed, revealed an interesting story of what the anti-Negro elements in Alabama are now doing to "keep the Negro in his place."

This is their story: "Erstwhile political enemies, an ex-governor, a state senator and a former Ku Klux Klan attorney, have joined forces to form the nucleus of a formidable anti-Negro movement in Alabama — a movement which may exceed in power and evil practices the Klan of the 20's. Their influence extends all over the state, with

Labor Department Women's Bureau Inaugurates New Community Services To Eliminate Unemployed Women

Age
New York, N. Y.

The war's impact on American communities has resulted in a variety of new services to facilitate the employment of women. The mobilization of the woman-power of the country, including an increasing number of Negro women, a recent survey by the Office of War Information reveals, has changed the habits of well over half of the civilian population. Breakfast canteens, war nurseries, extended school programs and industry-training classes are becoming as familiar a part of the American scene as are health clinics shopping services and midnight shows.

Many communities are now faced with such problems as inadequate home or public care for children, personal services worries due to disruption in normal living, problems of nutrition, health hazards and recreation opportunities.

AUG 21 1943

Things which some American communities are doing to offset the personal and group problems growing out of increased employment of women were cited as follows:

A Newark, N. J., store has offered a shopping service consisting of personal shoppers and miniature stores stationed in nearby war plants. In Newark, too, food store representatives go to a big plant in the morning, take orders from the women workers and have the filled grocery bags waiting at the door at the end of the shift. A similar plan has been projected at a Long Island plant. In Eau Claire, Wis., and Dixon, Ill., the banks stay open late one evening each week. In Moline, Ill., they are open Saturday afternoons. In Boston, Albany, Washington, Cleveland, Atlanta, Birmingham, Des Moines, and Minneapolis, stores stay open late one night each week. On any Thursday night in down-town Baltimore. the crowds are reminiscent of Christmas shopping crowds. Philadelphians may shop two nights weekly. Also in Philadelphia some butchers hold back part of their meat supply until 6 p.m. to accomodate women who come off assembly lines late. Other days and some unrationed foods are apportioned for late shoppers. Midnight shows are also popular in most large cities. In Eugene Ore., schools are kept open in the evening, all day Saturday and all week during vacations for children of war working parents. Gymnasiums are also in constant use.

AUG 21 1943

Although inadequate child care facilities have loomed as a chief obstacle to the employment of women in sufficient numbers, perhaps more has been done on the community level to counteract this problem than has been accomplished in meeting the other needs or women war workers. Foster home care, day care centers and extended school programs for children up to 14 have been established in large numbers. Federal funds have been approved to aid in the operation of more than 2,000 nursery school units and 1,315 day care centers for 92,000 children in the pre-school group and 105,000 children of school age. Applications are now pending to increase the number at least 100,000.

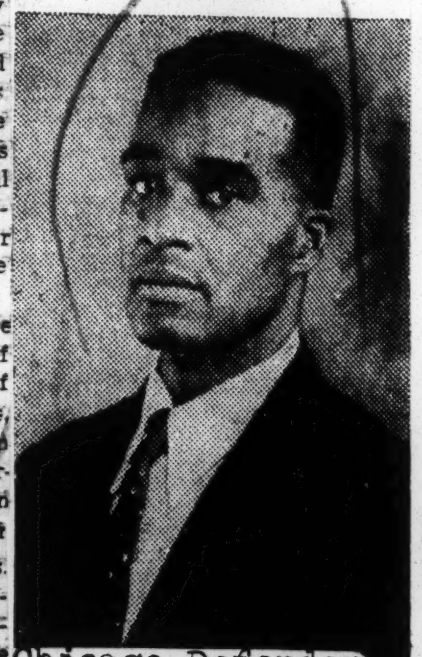
Examples of individual women turning to child care work as real war work are numerous. Many, their husbands overseas, have turned their homes into nursery schools to provide security and supervision for children of neighbors at work.

The Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor has urged the wide-spread establishment of community canteens. Another important responsibility that must be assumed by the community, says the Bureau, is provision of adequate laundry facilities. Public or private laundries where war workers can have their work done at reasonable costs should be established in every community, the Bureau suggests.

AUG 21 1943

This new emphasis on child care, canteens, recreational centers, public laundries, etc., should open up many new opportunities for work for Negro women, especially elderly women or women unable to stand the strain of the long hours of work and travel necessary to fill a war job. Service jobs have always been the forte of many Negro women and now these jobs are becoming as important in the war effort as are those in a factory.

Leader



Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

ARTHUR LEWIS

A native Memphian who was elected president of the International Association of Railway Employees, at the organization's convention in Atlanta, Ga., two weeks ago. Mr. Lewis, a locomotive fireman for 26 years, and who totals 31 years of service for the Illinois Central system, was made president of the militant railway employes' organization after a heated fight at the Atlanta convention. The association has spearheaded the fight for seniority rights, removal of discrimination, and other grievances of colored trainmen employed on railroads in the Southeastern region of the national railway setup.

AUG 7 1943

Latin American Labor Head Talks To Texas Race Church

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

JUL 31 1943

EL PASO, Tex. — Latin America's foremost labor leader, Vicente Lombardo Toledano, spoke this week from the pulpit of a big Negro Baptist church here in the heart of the South and urged Negro-white unity "to forge a happier world in which race discrimination will no longer exist."

"Fascism is based on race discrimination and that is its most savage, sanguinary, primitive and brutal aspect. To assure the progress of the world, the racial problem must disappear," he declared.

JUL 31 1943

Lombardo Toledano had been invited to speak at the church by Rev. William Nichelsberry and by the members of the Board of the Negro Temple.

JUL 31 1943

"Brothers, this is the first time in my life that I have spoken in a church," the President of the Confederation of Latin-American Workers began. He spoke to one of the biggest crowds that church had ever seen. Negroes from El Paso and nearby regions, liberally mixed with whites, jammed the church and listened through the windows from the outside. Local leaders of the CIO as well as Mexican trade union officials from across the border were present.

JUL 31 1943

Mrs. Lombardo, surrounded by some Negro children, was given a place of honor along with the mayor of Ciudad Juarez, Sr. Antonio Bermudez, and General Barrigueta, commander of the Mexican garrison. Many members of the congregation were in army uniform.

With Rev. Nichelsberry officiating, the service began with the singing of old Negro spirituals. After the hymn, "Lord, My Lord," Lombardo Toledano mounted the pulpit.

JUL 31 1943

He spoke of the war and of the aims for which it is fought.

"We expect that the world of tomorrow will be a democratic world with all the liberties of that system. But for that it is necessary that all peoples fight, and above all those who have suffered most. If that happens, then we shall be able to say that there exists Christian democracy.

JUL 31 1943

"No more slaves, no more ignorance and no more persecuted people. We hope that it will be thus," he declared.

Three Nabbed By Ga. Police For Labor Recruiting

Defender
Chicago, Ill

OCT 30 1943

AMERICUS, Ga.—(ANP) — Two white Floridans were released from the Americus jail Tuesday night after posting $1,000 cash bonds each, while the third, a Negro, was still in custody, following their arrest here Tuesday morning on charges of recruiting labor without a Georgia license.

The defendants were listed as Hugh Smith, colored, of Americus, Charles Pennington of Belle Glade, Fla., and Martin Meloy Young of Pahokee, Fla., both white.

The men allegedly were in Americus recruiting Negro laborers to carry to South Florida to help gather the bean crop. Testimony at the committal hearing held before Justice of the Peace W. A. McDonald tended to show that approximately 100 laborers had been herded together in the northern part of the city, to be carried from the state.

OCT 30 1943

Defendants pleaded ignorance of the law, and contended that they had contacted both city authorities and state patrolmen in an effort to ascertain their legal rights.

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The Worker
New York, N. Y.

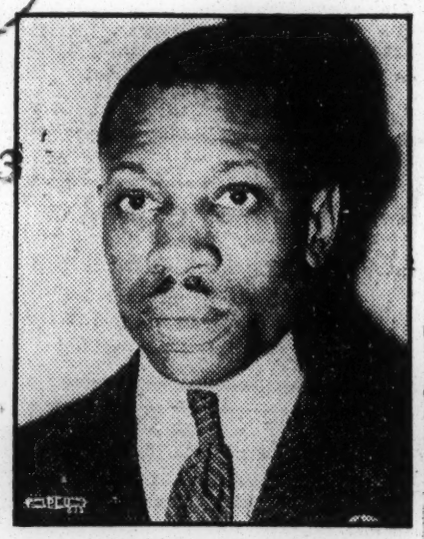
Union Leader at Ford's Hails The Worker's Role

FEB 14 1943

Shelton Tappes, secretary-treasurer of the biggest union local in the country—Local 600 of the United Auto Workers at Ford's—considers *The Worker* "deserving of praise."

Mr. Tappes was asked his opinion of *The Worker* in connection with this paper's current campaign for new subscribers. Mr. Tappes' statement said:

FEB 14 1943



SHELTON TAPPES

FEB 14 1943

"*The Worker* has proven itself to be a publication devoted to the cause of the working people. Its vigorous fight to crush the forces of fascism is commendable and deserving of praise. As yet there are too few enemies of that element which propagates a policy of exploitation of the common worker. Too few there are who want Hitler defeated—too numerous are those who indicate a desire that 'Hitlerism' should thrive on even though Hitler himself be defeated.

FEB 14 1943

"*The Worker* is rightfully counted among the vanguard of the 'progressive press' that sensed the despicable character of the Nazi and that sought the absolute destruction of Nazism."

May 24 1943

Georgia Editors Say

AGENTS HIRING FARM LABOR

(From The Sandersville Progress)

Several farmers of Washington county report that Negroes they had employed to work crops this year have deserted their farms to accept jobs as stevedores at Savannah. A Negro agent has toured various sections of the county recruiting labor and these are furnished transportation.

Emory Hartley, prominent farmer of Tennille, stated that two of his men left last week, notwithstanding the fact he had traded with them to work on his farm this season. Mr. Hartley said that many of his neighbors were short of help due to the migration to Savannah where the Negroes receive $47 per week.

Unless the practice is stopped many farms of Washington county will be without sufficient labor to work the crops and will have to be abandoned. It seems that the government wants farmers to produce record-breaking crops this year to assist in feeding the nation and our allies. On the other hand the granting of a permit to take labor from farms for loading ships at Savannah is all wrong. The matter should be stopped now before conditions of farms become more serious.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Negroes and John L. Lewis

MAY 14 1943

By James W. Ford

II.

Few people realized that the policy of the CIO on Negro workers was the result of the change brought about in the labor movement by the progressive forces as a whole.

The Communist Party played no small part in helping to bring about this historic change. The Communist Party, over a number of years had explained to the workers of America systematically the importance of incorporating Negro workers into the ranks of organized labor on the basis of full equality.

Philip Murray, president of the CIO and of the Steelworkers Union, is one of the great and most courageous friends of the Negro people in the labor movement. Under his leadership thousands of Negro workers have been brought into the Steelworkers Union. Under his wise and sympathetic leadership the policy of equality for Negro workers has been firmly established in the CIO.

MAY 14 1943

MURRAY'S SPEECH

At the Pittsburgh Conference of Negro steel workers in 1937, Philip Murray delivered a great speech on the need of organizing Negro workers into trade unions. In these intervening years that policy has been firmly established.

In his speech Mr. Murray dealt with the CIO program as a whole and its significance for the entire labor movement. He spoke of the problems that face Negroes in industry. He showed them what they could expect to gain through unionization, and the necessity of the unity of Negro and white workers in the struggle to raise the standards of steel workers as a whole. He declared that the SWOC (which has now become the Steelworkers Union) was out to organize Negro workers for their economic advancement, and that the labor movement held the prospects of political emancipation for the entire Negro people.

MAY 14 1943

Negro miners must turn over in their minds all of these developments. They must think of the relation of forces in this war—those who oppose it and those who are pushing it to a successful conclusion. They must think of the responsibility they owe to the war at the same time that they think of their demands in the industry. The two things go together. They are inseparable. The Negro people as a whole are playing a magnificent role in the war. Hundreds of thousands are in the armed forces of the nation on all of the various fronts. On the home front too, hundreds of thousands are in industry turning out supplies for the armed forces. The position of Negro labor in the trade union movement is stronger than ever before in the history of the nation.

However, despite these advances, we would be shortsighted if we failed to see that jim crow still exists and must be completely broken down. But jim crow can only be broken down jointly and in full collaboration with the prosecution of the war.

WHAT IS AT STAKE

Likewise the problems of the miners, if they are to be solved properly and adequately, must be considered in full association with winning the war. Everything that Negro people hold dear, every gain that labor has made and hopes to make is at stake in this war.

There are elements who are trying to raise class warfare into its most violent form as in the days when the union was growing and being built. The shameful and treasonable acts of sabotage of the war effort by the appeasers and defeatists and their encouragement of actions that rovoke bitterness among the mine workers are a crime in the midst of a patriotic war.

MAY 14 1943

This small minority of reactionaries of the capitalist class is trying to bring about collision among those forces that go to make up national unity to win the war. These forces include the Roosevelt win-the-war section of the capitalist class, the workers, farmers and the Negro people. In the win-the-war coalition it has been agreed to abandon class war strikes and to solve all questions of the rights of labor and the economic problems of the nation through negotiation. Uppermost among these problems now is economic stabilization.

ECONOMIC STABILIZATION

The mine strike let loose by John L. Lewis occurred when wide discussions were going on around the question of economic stabilization, that is, the adjustment of wages and prices so as to make the burdens of the war less and more easily carried by the workers. This program of economic stabilization includes not only the questions of wages and the high cost of living but also the organization of the whole of American economy to meet the needs of the armed forces and those of our allies.

MAY 14 1943

The seven-point program of President Roosevelt is a part of this program. The adjustment of farm prices is a part of economic stabilization. The struggle to level down high salaries to $25,000 yearly maximum was likewise a part of the program. Rationing of foodstuffs and other necessities is a part of the stabilization program.

When we review the struggle to establish a stabilization program we find that the forces who have most bitterly fought the program and President Roosevelt are the appeasers and defeatists.

Why does it happen that John L. Lewis, a leader of labor, is found to be a partner to this conspiracy? This is not hard to see. John L. Lewis holds bitter personal hatred for President Roosevelt. But what is worse, John L. Lewis opposes President Roosevelt's prosecution of the war.

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In the second place, if all out production is necessary to win the war, the conspiracy of opposition to the economic stabilization program is fatal to the military execution of the second front. John L. Lewis is no innocent baby. He knows that failure of the economic program can wreck the war effort. The consequence of that would aid Hitler. It is clear that obstinacy on the part of Lewis is only a mask to hide the conspiracy of the appeasers to negotiate with Hitler.

LABOR SOLIDARITY

To win this war demands solidarity of the entire labor movement. The miners' strike is producing disunity as between the various branches of the labor movement. The miners cannot lose sight of present day realities: that we are engaged in a national liberation war, that everything labor holds dear, everything it has fought for and achieved through past struggles is at stake in success of victory against Hitler and Hitlerism.

We are now in the beginning of

To Help Women in War Time Jobs

Mrs. Venice T. Spraggs, chairman of the National Department of Employment of the National policy should be repudi- labor and the Negro peo- Council of Negro Women, states, in answer to letters received requesting jobs, "The Wartime Employment Clinics are designed to help make permanent the

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.
MAY 14 1943
Clinics Designed

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

present employment gains of Negro women workers by facilitating their adjustment to their present jobs. However, we welcome any opportunity to be of service and will gladly refer job seekers to local placement agencies."

The Employment Program of the National Council plans for Wartime Employment Clinics to be set up throughout the country. The clinics will take the form of forums, round table discussions, panel discussions, open air meetings with community sings, radio presentations, dramatizations, and other such means to point up the employment problems of Negro women workers.

Employers, as well as employees, will participate in the meetings, and an attempt will be made to reduce absenteeism and problems on the job, and to improve race relations.



Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

Donald Stanford, 393 Edgecombe ave. was recently appointed to head the employment division at Harlem Branch YMCA for the Calco Chemical Division of the American Cyanamid Corporation. This firm—which employs over 1,000 Negroes, approximately 25 percent of its entire personnel—is the first to set up such a job service in this community. Stanford is a graduate of Columbia University and a former guidance counsellor at Industrial High School.

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

A. PHILIP RANDOLPH LOOMS HIGH AS NEGROES FOREMOST LEADER

By H. GEORGE DAVENPORT

Who is the foremost leader? That question has been asked time and time again and I will give an answer in my own way. Up to now the name of A. Philip Randolph looms higher than anyone because of the national fight he is making for the Negro in time of need. Negroes were being kicked around. Negroes were denied jobs on government work and war contracts. It was Randolph who conceived the idea of calling the attention of the President (as if he didn't know?. to the fact that Negroes were denied these jobs because of COLOR. It was Randolph who threatened to get an army of Negroes to march on Washington, who caused Roosevelt to issue his famous order and form the FEP that was instrumental in getting many Negroes work throughout the country.

It was shortly after the last war that Randolph, fresh from college, organized the Pullman porters, a group of underpaid and least respected of any group of railroad employees (and I know, because I railroaded just eight months, and it was eight months TOO LONG). Today the porters are enjoying the fruits of Randolph's labor. He had a hard time, he was intimidated, threatened and at one time offered a large sum of money to quit organizing these porters, but to no avail. Then a plot to discredit him was planned, according to a story told to me. A group of wealthy white men had ordered some Negroes to get some white women to go to a certain flat, and when Randolph was in the place with them, photographers were to take pictures and a raid was to be made and Randolph exposed. Of course, if this plan had worked out, Randolph would have been disgraced and the Pullman Porters Union would have been destroyed. Lucky for Randolph, he was tipped off and the plan fell through.

Randolph could have left these poor, helpless Negroes flat for quite a large sum of money had he been a leader of the type this writer comes in contact with quite often, but when a man reaches 'way down and helps a group of men who need help through a number of years, keeps that group intact, and then steps out to call the President of the United Staes' attention to the UNDEMOCRATIC treatment of his race when most of the LEADERS are keeping quiet, and threatens a MARCH ON WASHINGTON to protest these discriminations, I can call him nothing less than the GREATEST LEADER WE HAVE today. Some of you may differ with me, but to my mind a leader should have COURAGE, INFLUENCE, SUPERIOR QUALIFICATIONS and EXPERIENCE, and Randolph possesses all the above and more.

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

Negro RR Firemen Fight

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—The Louisville and Nashville Railroad and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen were charged with conspiracy to deprive Negro firemen of seniority rights and job assignments in the Steele case argued here last week before the Alabama State Supreme Court by Charles H. Houston, counsel for the International Association of Railway Employees.

Northerner Fined $50 in Tennessee As 'Labor Pirate'

Chicago Defender
—Chicago, Illinois—

CHATTANOOGA—Convicted of luring Negro workers away from plants in Chattanooga, to work for his organization, Robert Bollman was fined $50 and costs Tuesday in city court. Bollman is employed by a plant in Buffalo, N. Y.

Aubrey Folts, attorney for the defense, attempted to have the charge thrown out on the grounds of illegality of arrest, but was overruled by Judge Martin A. Fleming.

Waddell Loftis, an employe of a defense plant here, testified, saying that he and 16 other Negroes had taken jobs with the Buffalo plant, and that he had come back within two weeks.

Under the present regulations of the War Manpower Commission the charge also implies a Federal offense, but it was not determined whether any further action would be taken.



NOTABLES AT "WIN THE PEACE" RALLY

The Worker
New York, N. Y

Paul Robeson, left, Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America; Vice-President Henry Wallace and Anton Johannsen, vice-president of the Chicago Federation of Labor were among the prominent public figures who addressed the mass meeting dedicated to winning the war and the peace. Robeson, who attended Chicago's mass meeting leading role in "Othello." sporting a beard is growing it for his forthcoming leo

Negro Group Won 3,000 Jobs Since Aug.

"Daily worker" new york, n.y. JAN 3 1943

The Negro Labor Victory Committee has placed more than 3,000 persons in factory and office jobs throughout Greater New York since last August, Mrs. Dorothy K. Funn, administrative secretary, said yesterday. She attributed the organization's success to the "excellent cooperation" of placement bureaus conducted by the AFL, the CIO, the Peoples Committee of Greater New York, the State Committee on Discrimination in Employment and the Regional Fair Employment Practice Committee offices.

"Daily worker"

"The files of our employment referral service reveal that openings for clerical workers still far exceed the supply," Mrs. Funn said. "Although the shortage of applicants in this field is now somewhat acute, there is a long list of trades, skilled, semi-skilled and un-skilled, for which applications are being accepted and jobs obtained."

new york, n.y. JAN 3 - 1943

The offices of the Negro Labor Victory Committee, 67 W. 125th St., Room 43, are open from 7 to 9 P. M. Monday through Thursday.

Negro Labor Group Hits Red-Baiters Here

SEP 28 1943

Daily Worker
New York, N.

The Negro Labor Victory Committee yesterday lashed out sharply against a resolution made public by the executive board of Paper Box Makers Union, Local 299, AFL, in which an attempt is made to foster division among the Negro organizations here.

The issue arose when the local's leaders made public a resolution criticizing Assemblyman Hulan Jack, one of New York's three Negro assemblymen, a member of the union, and listed as one of the sponsors of the Negro Labor Victory Committee. The resolution, while admitting that Assemblyman Jack "has a right to join any organization he chooses," took the occasion to attack the committee as a "Communist venture." The union's support, the resolution declared recognizes no other but a group headed by Frank R. Crosswaith, an organizer of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, according to A. M. Weinberg, manager of Local 299.

SEP 28 1943

BLASTS DIVISIVE STATEMENT

The Negro Labor Victory Committee's statement, issued through its secretary, Charles A. Collins, who is also business representative of Hotel Club Employes, Local 6, AFL, characterized Mr. Weinberg's statement as "similar to those of lynchers of the South who also divide Negroes into two groups 'good' Negroes and 'bad' Negroes."

SEP 28 1943

"Mr. Weinberg could best serve his country and the labor movement by helping the Negro people to fight discrimination and race prejudice," the statement went on, pointing out that "he himself is a representative of a minority people—the Jewish people, millions of whom are being murdered by the Hitlerite forces."

The statement continued:

"The Negro Labor Victory Committee was organized in April 1942, to fight for full equality for Negroes in all phases in American life; to stimulate the organization of Negroes in trade unions; and to enlist the full support of the Trade Union movement in a concerted effort to end discrimination and unite our country for victory.

"The Negro Labor Victory Committee is backed up by 300,000 organized workers, 200,000 of these are in the AFL, CIO and Independent unions officially affiliated with the Committee by action of their Executive Board with duly elected delegates. The other 100,000 are in the more than 50 additional unions who cooperate with and support the work of the Committee.

SEP 28 1943

"The record of concrete achievement of the Committee—in getting skilled jobs for more than 6,000 Negroes; in organizing with the support of community organizations and trade unions the historic Negro Freedom Rally at Madison Square Garden on June 7th which drew 39,000 people—the largest gathering under the auspices of Negroes held anywhere in the world, in organizing numerous delegations of trade unionists to Washington to demand an end to discrimination; in forcing the Maritime Commission to place Captain Hugh Mulzac in command of the liberty ship SS Booker T. Washington—speaks for itself.

"It is indeed unfortunate that Mr. Weinberg and certain misguided Negroes have seen fit to join hands with the reactionary white supremacy leaguers by repeating red-baiting slanders against the Negro Labor Victory Committees, but we are confident that these people will fool no one but themselves. The record of concrete contribution to the freedom of the Negro people and to the unity of all Americans in the fight against fascism at home and abroad which has been established by the Negro Labor Victory Committee will outlive their feeble slanders."

35b-1943
People's Voice
New York. N. Y.

Negro Workers A Victory Must

SEP 11 1943

BALTIMORE—Outlining a program of war production for the coming months, Joseph D. Keenan, vice-chairman of the War Production Board, declared to the National Negro Business League convention here last week that in the future the U.S. will need every available worker in the job for which he or she is best suited.

"We will need workers on farms, in mines, on railroads, in factories, in all occupations needed to produce war material and to meet the essential civilian requirements on the home front," he said.

"The need must be met by people working together in the best interests of the country.

"Negroes are helping in that effort. They are helping in countless ways, not only in the armed forces, but also on the production line. They are needed to help us win. As WPB vice-chairman for war production, I intend to do all I can to make sure that Negroes are not sidetracked by prejudice. I will urge that position as vigorously with a union group as with an employer."

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

HARLEMITES SEEK JOBS

NOV 30 1943

100 Are Recruited in Campaign by Y. M. C. A. and WMC

The campaign to obtain war workers in Harlem begun yesterday by the Harlem branch of the Young Men's Christian Association in cooperation with the War Manpower Commission, had brought 100 recruits by last night. B. J. Barnette, employment secretary of the Y. M. C. A. branch, expressed belief that 1,000 workers would be enrolled by Saturday, when the drive is scheduled to end.

The campaign, taking the form of a house-to-house canvass, was suggested by Donald Stanford, personnel representative of the American Cynamid Company.

Other cooncerns cooperating include the American Smelting and Refining Company, the Sperry Gyroscope Corporation, the Wright Aeronautical Corporation, the Aluminum Company of America and the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company.

The Postoffice Department also has evinced a desire to get employes to fill some of 4,000 vacancies caused by the draft. This would be for the duration of the war.

Negroes Seek Greater Share In War Effort

SEP 30 1943

Atlanta, Georgia
Constitution

W. Allen Murphy, Negro waiter and chairman of the Atlanta service group war bond committee, has asked for a greater share in the war effort for Negroes.

He said in an interview yesterday that in Atlanta, for example, there are approximately 100,000 Negroes of whom a total of about 35,000 are employed. Of these, he estimated between 6,000 and 7,000 are engaged in various forms of war work.

Murphy added that "a good many others are needed to do war work but are unable to get placed in jobs. Negroes want to do more than they really are given an opportunity to do."

He said that "a number of Negroes are not working anywhere, and are not even skilled. Because they're getting a small government allotment check from someone in the armed services they're not trying to do any other work. They're the real problem.

Many in this category, he said, are not working because when they did work they were paid $5 or $6 a week, and now with their allotment check their view is "what's the use of working."

"The domestic field," he said, "offers a large area of the opportunities where vast numbers of Negro people could serve, and likewise offers the white employer a fine opportunity to express appreciation for services rendered in adequate salaries."

Murphy said that "where an adequate salary is being paid Negroes should not 'retire' from work because they are receiving a government allotment check."

He added that when Negro domestic servants stop working because of an allotment check "it is a hindrance to the war effort and will be a hindrance to them after the war is over."

WAR NECESSITY

SEP 11 1943

Lincoln emancipated the slaves in the Civil War because he saw no other way to win the war. Except for that emergency, emancipation would have been delayed.

Necessity is operating in this war again. We didn't free the Philippines. Japan took them away from us and gave Filipinos independence. The other day Mr. Roosevelt declared that we will free the islands as soon as we have retaken them. Afro-American

SEP 11 1943

Our government has not fostered the growth of foodstuffs in Central and South American countries for fear that these products would compete with U.S. crops. Faced with a shortage and necessity of feeding overseas armies and conquered peoples, last week we began urging our neighbor republics to grow food in quantity. Baltimore, Md.

There used to be no jobs for colored people in Northern cities. Today the papers are filled with classified ads begging for help, colored or white.

Jim-crow signs are disregarded on trains and busses. Whites are finding colored people to be good Americans.

There is this bright side to the war: the longer it lasts, the more decent we have got to be to win it.

Work-Jail Rule Jails 'Em in Ga.

AUG 28 1943

New York, N. Y.

SANDERSVILLE, Ga.—The manpower shortage here caused local authorities to issue a "work-or-go-to-jail" order this week following the arrest of several Negroes for allegedly trying to "go north."

Most of the workers involved are farm laborers who are leaving their agricultural pursuits because the pay is limited to $1.50 a day.

County Agent S. C. Mercer has complained frequently during the past few weeks that there is 'an extreme shortage of labor in this area." Amsterdam News

AUG 28 1943

The new order issued by the Police Department requires all Negroes, over 16 and not in possession of a badge to denote where they're employed, to keep in close touch with police officials. In addition, all Negroes in town must report every Wednesday for a day's work on nearby farms.

'Work-Fight' Drive Jails Ala. Women

AUG 28 1943

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

By JOHN LeFLORE
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

MOBILE, Ala.—A "work or fight" campaign order recently proclaimed by Gov. Chauncey Sparks was Mobile's police defense as arresting 32 colored women on raids on night clubs and other public places Friday night.

The women were brought before City Recorder Norvelle R. Leigh, III, on Saturday morning on charges of violating the city vagrancy ordinance and 29 drew fines of $25 and cost or 25 days in jail. In fining the women, Recorder Leigh is said to have told them that one or two days' work a week would not be enough to keep persons from feeling the penalty of the law.

Henry Campbell of Hogan street, was also arrested in the Friday night raids. He was charged with operating a "juke joint" at his home. Campbell was fined a total of $325 and costs or 295 days in jail on charges of operating a disorderly house, vagrancy, violating the city's alcoholic beverage ordinance, and operating a dance hall without a license.

Eleven colored men were previously arrested by Sheriff William H. Holcombe, when they refused work offered to them.

It is reported that the NAACP and other civic organizations here, while anxious to have all Negroes work, are not in sympathy with any movement upon the part of any source to force Negro men and women work at sub-standard wages. The NAACP officers have announced that if the raids are intended to terrorize Negroes into working for those who will not pay standard wages, and the persons arrested can prove that they have been and are dilligently seeking work at a living wage, it will be the duty of the organization to offer whatever legal defense may be available for the victims of the police raids.

Police Enforce Alabama 'Work or Fight' Order

Call

BIRMINGHAM. — (ANP) — Birmingham police this week were busy setting up machinery for putting into effect Governor Chauncey Sparks' "work or fight" order.

Jefferson County's Sheriff Holt McDowell said that he had instructed deputies to round up all vagrants without regard to race or color and lock them in the county jail. City police were similarly instructed.

Sheriff McDowell revealed that 400 placards with the "work or fight" order written on them were being placed in the city's pool halls, barber shops and places of recreation.

Kansas City, Mo.

The placard reads as follows:

'As governor of Alabama, I have instructed all law enforcement agencies to enforce the state vagrancy law. Idleness will not be tolerated while our men are fighting and there is need for food and weapons. The law defines a vagrant as: 'Any able-bodied person having no property sufficient for his support who loafs, loiters, or idles in any city, town or village, or upon a public highway or in any public place in the state without regular employment, and any person over the age of 21, able to work and who does not work and has no property sufficient for his support and has not some means of a fair, honest and reputable livelihood.'

"Any person convicted of vagrancy may be fined up to $500 and sentenced to hard labor for not more than 12 months.

"A job is open to you now: thousands of workers are needed in Alabama war industries and on the farms. Apply for a job at the nearest office of the U. S. Employment Service or to the county farm agent."

Judge, Sheriff Clash In Mobile Enforcement Of 'Work-Fight' Law

Defender
Chicago, Ill

By JOHN LeFLORE
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

MOBILE, Ala.—A verbal clash between an inferior court judge and Sheriff William H. Holcombe marked this city's third week of an intensive "work-or-fight" campaign being waged by the latter's office here.

The tiff resulted from the dismissal of several colored men picked up in the sheriff's concentration on the Negro residential section. The men were discharged by Judge Tisdale J. Touart on their arraignment on vagrancy charges. No sooner had they been freed than Holcombe became defiant and threatened to have cases of similar nature tried in the city court and before justices of the peace unless Judge Touart changes his attitude.

Robert F. Scheard, John Pugh and Randolph Battles, three colored employees of the Ruberoid company had been arrested by sheriff's deputies upon complaint of their employers that they had been absent on an average of a little more than one day per week for the past 100 days.

Likened To Peonage

In dismissing the three colored men Judge Touart told Carter Smith, superintendent of the Ruberoid company and complaining witness, that if a man worked for five days and did not work the sixth day that was strictly the employee's own business.

The judge continued, "The practice of employers havng employees arrested for vagrancy when they miss a few days' work is dangerously close to peonage. This is still a free country and, while I believe every man should work his utmost during these times, I cannot convict persons absent from their jobs occasionally on vagrancy charges."

He added that the vagrancy law defines a vagrant as a person who is over 21 years of age, who is able to work but does not work, or who does not have visible means of support.

5 Others Freed

Judge Touart further explained that "If a man works three or four days a week and makes enough money during those days on which to live the remaining days of the week, I cannot convict him in my court for vagrancy."

Five other colored men were dismissed on vagrancy charges, one was discharged upon payment of costs of court when he admitted that he did not have his draft card on his person at the time he was picked up, and the cases of four others postponed by Judge Touart on the day of his vagrancy ruling.

Scheard stated to the Defender that he did not report for work at the Ruberoid company on Monday night, September 20, because of a condition similar to rheumatism bothering one of his arms. However, he did report for work the next night, explained his condition to his foreman, and requested to be allowed to take the night off, he averred.

Refused Time Off

The foreman turned down the request owing to an apparent shortage of workers Scheard further related how his arm pained him to such an extent that he was compelled to remain home Wednesday night, and was arrested Thursday night as he was about to leave his residence for work.

About 300 persons, a vast majority Negroes, including more than 40 colored women, have been arrested in Mobile's work-or-fight drive by city and county officers. Last week three ministers, the Rev. T. J. Hayles, pastor of the Aimwell Baptist church, with a membership of about 1,000 persons; Rev. Arthur A. Eaton and Rev. William Tate, were jailed in an intensified two-day drive which resulted in the arrest of 80 colored men because they did not have their draft registration cards on their persons at the moment they were questioned by sheriff's deputies.

No whites were questioned or arrested at the time, although in one instance, the two groups were standing in separate lines at a liquor store when officers came up and arrested a number of Negroes from their line but did not attempt to molest the whites, eye-witnesses stated.

Justice Dep't Eyes Law

While Mobile was staging its own little battle, the Department of Justice moved to examine similar "work-or-jail" legislation in Maryland, to determine whether or not Federal statutes against peonage and involuntary servitude are being violated.

Under scrutiny of the Department already is the case of Jasper Merrill, 40, of Berlin, Md., who was jailed for refusing a job, then paroled to the manager of a poultry company who had caused his arrest.

Also under investigation is a charge that Anne Arundel County has puts its own interpretation on the state law in order to force work upon residents of the community. A poster taken from a telephone pole in the county, displaying an inaccurate interpretation of the legislation, is in the hands of Justice Department agents.

Arrested



REV. T. J. HAYLES

Pastor of the Aimwell Baptist church of Mobile, who was recently arrested in a Work-or-Fight drive which resulted in the jailing of 80 or more colored people in two days. A total of about 300 persons, a vast majority Negroes, including wom-

en, have been arrested in Mobile since the beginning of the drive several months ago. Two other ministers were also jailed in the campaign on the same day that Rev. Hayles was arrested.

35b-1943
The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Predicts Need For Workers Out of City

MAY 24 1943

The Brooklyn Urban League, 105 Fleet Place, has just issued a report on work possibilities for Negroes in Westchester County and has called upon Negro workers in Brooklyn and Manhattan to prepare themselves to travel daily as far as Yonkers, Tarrytown, Mount Vernon and Hastings, where most of the war plants are located.

Lorenzo Davis, industrial secretary of the Brooklyn Urban League who made the report, said that a total of 15,000 workers will be needed this year by plants holding government contracts for war production. He named some of these plants as Anaconda Wire, Ward Leonard Manufacturers, Otis Elevator Corp. and Eastern Aircraft. Other areas in need of help, he said, are Buffalo and Syracuse, where about 9,000 additional workers mostly women, will probably be needed this year.

MAY 24 1943

Both Negro and white workers, Mr. Davis said, must resolve that if they want to work in war industries they shall have to get up early in the morning and to travel relatively long distances by train. He said that the opportunity right now is unprecedented.

Times
April 6 1943

NOW THEY'RE TAKING WOMEN AS LABORERS

The appeal of the United States employment service Sunday for 100 Negro common laborers was disappointing, and the service offered the jobs yesterday to any husky Negro women who would like to make a man's pay. Only 11 men showed up and got jobs, which leaves a lot of work for the women who will take it. Any woman who can tote lumber can get 50 cents an hour and time and a half for overtime and be helping the war to boot.

Birmingham, Ala., News
May 25, 1943

The Need For Workers

There continues to be a pressing need for skilled workers. As an evidence, the Kaiser Shipyards, of Portland, Ore., and Vancouver, Wash., are advertising in Birmingham for "shipyard workers, mechanics and helpers." The basis for accepting persons, according to Kaiser advertisements, is "transportation advanced, no previous experience required, immediate, complete living facilities available."

It has been known for some time in the Birmingham area that applicants for training in shipbuilding skills had decreased considerably. Now Henry Kaiser's company probes deeply into the South for workers.

The question may arise whether the Kaiser yards are interested in tapping the tremendous source of Negro labor here in Birmingham, and in the South generally. There are many, many workers at present unable to get jobs in essential industries; this is no new "condition." It has prevailed for some time.

If the Kaiser yards are so in need of workers that they come way down here to get them, then it is high time we realize more than ever that we need our full manpower; and we won't be using it until thousands of Negroes are encouraged to apply for training, until they are given this training, and until they are assured jobs in which they can use the skills they acquire.

Italian Tunes In Cotton Belt Oust Spirituals

JUL 30 1943

CLARKSDALE, Miss., July 8 (ANP)—Closely akin to the Negro in spirit, the Italian war prisoners from Africa sing while they work in the cotton fields of Mississippi these days.

"O Sole Mio," and other widely sung Italian melodies replace the familiar Negro spirituals which have been sung in these cotton fields for years.

The Italian prisoners are being used to replace field Negro and white workers drafted from the farms into the armed services. They may also be used to pick cotton next fall. Coshoma county is looking forward to getting 5,000 of these prisoners by the time cotton picking season begins.

Seek Child Labor To Peel Shrimps; Industry In Danger

March 27, 19

The Informer

Washington, D. C.—Relaxation of the Federal Child Labor News Laws to permit colored children of 14 to 15 years of age to peel shrimp is being advocated by the Southern shrimp industry.

Reports from the southeastern seaboard indicate that shortage of labor to peel shrimp has caused thousands of pounds of crabs, one report being that at Fernandina, Florida, 44,000 pounds of crabs could not be handled.

Officials of the Maggioni company and P. H. Ploeger of the company at Darien point out that under the Georgia law children of 14 to 16 years of age can obtain certificates to work, but that the Federal law takes precedence.

Maggioni officials say the working hours at their plant could be arranged so as not to interfere with schooling. They add that in the summer vacation the young workers would be valuable not only in the shrimp industry but in the preparation of vegetables for canning. They contend that the work they would offer is not arduous.

Mr. Ploeger says he needs workers especially between August and March and declares that colored children of 14 to 16 could be employed without harm to them.

Shrimp peeling is largely done by colored workers. The unscientific theory is advanced that the acids in the shrimp have a bad reaction on the skin of white persons, but does not affect the skin of colored persons. Many colored women have been employed in this industry. Pay is on a piece-work basis.

The Maggioni plant normally employs 300 to 350 peelers, but reports that, although it furnishes transportation, it now can get no more than thirty-five. One reason for the shortage is that, with colored men making big wages in war industry, many of their wives find no need to work.

Raleigh, N. C. News & Observer
July 12, 1943

LABOR AVAILABLE, SURVEY REVEALS

At Least 1,200 Negroes in Washington County Available for Farm Duty

One-half of the Negroes above 10 years of age in Washington, Beaufort County, are ready and willing to do farm work. This information was obtained in reply to the question, "Are you willing to do farm work now?" asked of every tenth Negro person above 10 years of age in a survey conducted by Doctors Selz C. Mayo and C. Horace Hamilton, Department of Rural Sociology, N. C. Agricultural Experiment Station. The two men were aided by five local Negro public school teachers in the town. On the basis of this survey, it is estimated that at least 1,200 Negroes in Washington are available for farm work in the surrounding territory.

Of these available for farm work, 81 per cent have had farm experience, 50 per cent have worked on a farm during the past year, and 23 per cent are now working on farms. Thirty-four per cent were not gainfully employed. It is obvious, therefore, that many now working at some nonfarm job would be willing to shift to agriculture.

Little Vagrancy Found.

Of the entire population above 10 years of age, 34 per cent were gainfully employed; but none of these were males between 14 and 45 years of age, and less than two per cent were males above 45 years. About three per cent were boys under 14 years. The remainder were women and girls who would not likely be classed as vagrants. Two-thirds of all those available now are working at some job and 43 per cent of these at some nonagricultural occupation.

Many Farm Laborers Lost.

Evidence of farm labor shortage is in the answers received to this question "Have you worked on a farm during the past year?" The replies indicate that there are 720 Negroes above 10 years of age who have worked on a farm during the past year, but only 610 are available now. Obviously, therefore, there are approximately 110 less laborers available than worked during the past year. However, considering the fact that only 280 now are doing farm work as compared with the 720 of last year, the net loss is 440 workers.

Most of the available laborers are experienced in farm work, but 66 per cent of them are females and five per cent boys under 14 years of age. Eight per cent are males between 14 and 18 and only 13 per cent are men 18-45 years of age.

Conclusion.

Even though many persons in Washington, and possibly other eastern Carolina towns are available for farm work, for some reason they are not being fully utilized. Some of the reasons are more or less well known; such as, lack of adequate transportation and housing, competition with city wages, and lack of proper experience. Other factors are involved and should be given immediate attention.

Apparently neither the Negroes nor the civic organizations of the area have been sufficiently impressed with the need for farm labor on surrounding farms. Definite appeals, based on the facts, as well as on patriotic motives, should be made. Local committees should then help iron out local transportation and housing problems.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

School Pupils Filling in Local Manpower Gap

JUN 29 1943

The ice cream sodas or household appliances you buy this summer will, in most cases, be sold to you by vacationing school youngsters who are rapidly filling the local manpower gap.

More than 4200 permits have already been issued this month to school children in the 14-17 age group, Mrs. Alice C. Sheldon, school attendance offiser, reported yesterday. She said a record total of 4500 was expected before the close of June.

The record figure of last June was 3383, while only 1378 permits were issued in June of 1941, indicating that the man-short employer of today are more willing to hire inexperienced workers.

372 High Day

Majority of the teen-age employes will fill their first jobs before the end of June, Mrs. Sheldon said. Many from the 16-17 group already have found positions as clerks or messengers in drug stores, grocery stores and department stores. Clerking, helping in stock-rooms and filling stations available, said Mrs. Sheldon. Yesterday ran a second with 350 applicants, but a gradual decline is expected in a few days. Exact figures could not be released. Girls of all ages have found jobs foremost among as typists or telephone operators, the jobs for which they have been

Also indicative of the change in the manpower scene is the number of Negro applicants; more this year than ever before have found positions available, said Mrs. Sheldon. Clerking, helping in stock-rooms and filling stations and portering also rank high on the list for which they have been

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

while a few will spend their summers as nurses aides in local hospitals. One 15-year-old young lady will be a dancing teacher, and several will be beauty operators.

Peanut samplers and cemetery grass cutters also appear in the District records.

And a few have chosen their summer jobs in the Districts most advantageous locations—as attendants or life guards in swimming pools.

JUN 29 1943

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Negro To Spend Days on Farm, Nights in Jail

MACON, Ga., May 31.—(AP)—Taking cognizance of the "extreme shortage of good farm labor," Judge A. M. Anderson today gave a Houston county Negro farm hand an opportunity to serve a jail sentence and keep his job on the farm at the same time.

The defendant, Henry Simmons, was charged with driving a car while under the influence of liquor. He had previously been placed on probation for a similar offense.

Houston county residents, including Simmons' employer, told the judge Simmons was a good farm hand and "never drank on the job."

JUN 1 1943

"We need good farm laborers too badly to let a man waste his time idly in jail," Judge Anderson commented.

He ordered that Simmons for a period of 10 months spend his nights and Sundays in the Houston county jail at Perry and work each week-day on the farm. He will be placed in a cell at 7:30 p. m. and be released at 6:30 a. m. every day except Sunday, the sentence provides.

JUN 1 1943

From his salary, Simmons must pay $5 weekly until $220 is paid as a fine to the county take care of expenses.

The judge ordered the sentence changed automatically to full-time prison confinement if Simmons fails to report for farm work.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Truck Growers Seek 1,000 Negro Laborers

SAVANNAH, Ga., May 31.—(AP) Truck growers within 20 miles of the city are in need of 1,000 Negro pickers for potatoes, string beans and tomatoes, or the crops will be wasted in the fields, representatives of the growers informed Mayor Gamble in a city-wide appeal for help.

JUN 1 1943

Pastors of Negro churches were asked to call for labor as a patriotic duty and every effort is being made to meet the situation, Mayor Gamble said. Able-bodied boys and girls as well as older men and women could be used in the vita work, it was emphasized.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Farm Labor Shortage Still Acute in Md.

JUN 22 1943

By the Associated Press

Baltimore, June 21.—Despite concerted efforts to relieve the farm labor shortage in Maryland, the need for workers is still acute with a deficit of 18,800 persons indicated at present, the State Farm Labor Advisory Committee reported today.

JUN 22 1943

Plans of the University of Maryland Extension Service, under Dr. T. B. Symons and Paul Nystrom, for recruiting and distributing workers include establishment of 23 farm labor camps, Chairman P. C. Turner announced.

At a meeting of the committee in Baltimore today, Turner said the "Eastern Shore is still the darkest part of the picture," although 300 Bahaman workers are in camps there now and application has been made for a total of 14,035. The Eastern Shore's truck crops areas report greatest shortage of workers, with canning factory needs next, Turner said.

Dr. Symons reported he had applied to the War Department for approximately 250 Axis prisoners to be housed at Fort George G. Meade and moved to various sections of the State where farm workers are needed. Prisoners would be made available only in localities where residents expressed willingness to employ them, Symons said.

JUN 22 1943

Miss Dorothy Emerson of the extension servvice announced that a women's land army camp with a capacity of 10 opened today in Anne Arundel County. Thrity women, including 12 from Washington, started work at this camp at 6:30 a. m. today. Ten were from Baltimore, five from Frederick, one from Arlington, one from Hyattsville and one from Essex.

JUN 22 1943

In cases of danger to perishable crops, Turner continued, Maj. Gen. Milton A. Reckord, head of the Third Service Command, had assured the committee that he would furnish soldiers to save them. Already 150 soldiers at Fort Meade and 50 at Camp Ritchie are working in State canneries, he added.

67,000 Workers Needed, But:—

Pittsburgh Courier

San Francisco Mayor Wants 'Negro Invasion' Halted

Pittsburgh, Pa.

JUL 3 1943

SAN FRANCISCO, July 1—Pointing out to the cities co-ordinating council that Negro labor is most essential to the local shipbuilding industry and many migrant Negroes would be needed to fill the demands for 67,000 new shipbuilding workers necessary in bay region yards within the coming year, William R. Hopkins, regional war manpower commissioner, put the quietus on Mayor Angelo Rossi's plea that "the Negro invasion of San Francisco be halted." The mayor's demand came recently as an alleged solution to the pitiful housing conditions foistered on race-workers.

MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS

The co-ordinating committee which held a series of meetings last week to study the grave problem of the overcrowding of the cities evergrowing Negro population, prepared a series of recommendations aimed at solving the desperate situation. Included were:

1—A request that the mayor speed up action on the local child care and nursery school program so that mothers would be freed for jobs.

2—The division, through housing authorities, add 1,000 temporary housing near industry centers be made available to Negro war workers.

3—A program to step up recruiting of local labor so that housing and transportation problems would not be complicated by an influx of workers from other states.

FACILITIES NEEDED

Of interest was Chief of Police Dullea's statement to the committee during the sessions. According to the chief, the establishment of adequate facilities in the Fillmor district, largely populated by Negroes, would almost totally eliminate crime problems there.

JUL 3 1943

Negro Workers Recruited From State Churches

Jackson, Miss. News
September 23, 1943

The labor situation in Southern cotton fields and industries is so acute at this time that appeals have been made to congregations in negro churches to expedite recruiting emergency help, according to John A. Eckhoff, supervisor of rural industries for the Mississippi U. S. Employment Service office.

Mr. Eckhoff stated that recently Burt E. Green, placement specialist from his office, had appeared before five negro churches on the state coast in an effort to secure labor for coast shrimp packing plants. The results are said to be satisfactory and while about 1,000 helpers are still needed by shrimp packers, the situation is in hand at this time because of bad weather which prevents shrimp fishermen from making their usual hauls.

Green, according to Eckhoff, made seven speeches to the negro churches and then promised to call on them at their homes to get individual responses. After many helpers had agreed to do temporary work in the shrimp plants, trucks were consigned to transfer the workers to and from the plants.

In recent months workers have been sent from the Meridian area to the Dakota wheat fields and the extension department at State college has been active in securing surplus labor from different state areas for cotton picking elsewhere.

Greater Share For Negroes in War Effort Asked

Columbia, S. C., State
September 29, 1943

Atlanta, Sept. 28—(AP)—W. Allen Murphy, Negro waiter and chairman of the Atlanta Service Group War Bond committee, asked today for a greater share in the war effort for Negroes.

He said in an interview that in Atlanta, for example, there are approximately 100,000 Negroes of whom a total of about 35,000 are employed. Of these, he estimated between 6,000 and 7,000 are engaged in various forms of war work.

Murphy added that "a good many others are trained to do war work but are unable to get placed in jobs. Negroes want to do more than they really are given an opportunity to do."

He said that "a number of Negroes are not working anywhere, and are not even skilled. Because they're getting a small government allotment check from someone in the armed services they're not trying to do any other work. They're the real problem."

Many in this category, he said, are not working because when they did work they were paid five or six dollars a week, and now with their allotment check their view is "what's the use of working?"

"The domestic field," he said, "offers a large area of fine opportunities where vast numbers of Negro people could serve, and likewise offers the white employer a fine opportunity to express appreciation for services rendered in adequate salaries."

Murphy said that "where an adequate salary is being paid Negroes should not 'retire' from work because they are receiving a government allotment check."

He added that when Negro domestic servants stop working because of an allotment check "it is a hindrance to the war effort and will be a hindrance to them after the war is over."

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

Harlem Drive Seeks 1000 For War Jobs

NOV 1943

8-Block Experiment Recruits Scores On First Day

An experiment in war job recruiting, launched in an eight-block area in Harlem, today brought in scores of applicants and officials hoped 1,000 will have been hired when the drive ends Saturday night.

"We are highly gratified at the response," said B. J. Barnette, employment secretary of the Harlem branch YMCA, sponsor of the experiment. "If it proves as successful as we think the canvass will be extended throughout Harlem."

First step in the campaign was taken last Saturday. At the suggestion of Donald Stanford, personnel representative of the American Cyanamid Co., nine youths from the Y's boys department distributed circulars among the 50,000 persons who live between 140th and 148th Sts. from

...sentatives at the ...ring as much as ...were available to ...orkers.

...showed that an average (almost nothing." ...Y said jobs paying ...week." This ...excessively high rate, he said, was due principally to the inexperienced workers ...great distances which workers had to travel to reach their jobs, many of which were in New Jersey fac- ...tories. "Starting this week, however, ...he said, "several companies are ...operating special busses direct to the plants. This should cut the ...number of those who will quit ...

35c-1943

MOBILE RACE RIOT LAID TO COMPANY

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

OWI Taxes Alabama Shipbuilding Officers With Suppressing FEPC Ruling on Workers

SEPARATE WAYS ALLOWED

But the Concern Kept Order a Secret, Marvin Cox Says—State Official Backs Him

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

MOBILE, June 12—A dangerous labor situation which seemed to have been consigned to a conspiracy of silence by government agencies and a great shipyard was exposed this week when Marvin Cox, regional director of the Office of War Information, blew an overdue blast in the direction of the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company.

This corporation, whose plant is manned by more than 30,000 workers, has been playing all ends against both the middle and the rim, according to some observers, who believe that D. R. Dunlap, president, and J. M. Griser, vice president of the company, would not be saddened if the rioting which two weeks ago followed the use of Negro welders could have been attributed to the Right Rev. Francis J. Haas' Fair Employment Practice Committee and the President's Executive Order 8802.

There seems to have been an understanding that entire Negro crews, riggers, welders and others would be assigned to certain shipways. However, on the night shift on May 24, an all-Negro welding group was assigned to a single shipway where there were no white welders, but it was not one of the ways which was supposed to be assigned exclusively to Negro workers.

The company did not make this situation clear, and it has been stated that the management must have expected trouble to follow and that the burden would be put on the Administration, as indeed it was. On May 25, there was bloody rioting.

Eighty Workers Injured

Eighty workers, nearly all Negroes, were badly injured, but one of the most seriously hurt was a white worker who attempted to rscue a Negro worker from two of the company's guards who were beating up the black workers.

The speed with which soldiers arrived at the scene of rioting has been cited as evidence that trouble had been anticipated. In any event, the State militia is watching developments in Mobile and in the plant are stationed Federal soldiers to see that government property is not damaged or destroyed.

Before the understanding regarding the assignment of Negroes had been agreed on, Mr. Dunlap stated in The Mobile Register that the rioting was the result of the company's effort to put in force the President's Order 8802. This seemed to indicated that the company's action on the night of May 24 was forced on it by the Administration. It was at this time reported that shipyard officials asserted that there was only one decision to make, and that was whether the company's employes were to be all white or all Negroes.

After the conference, which proposed that four ways be set aside for Negro workers, the shipbuilding company's officials and the Maritime Commission refused to let the terms be made public. Efforts to keep the press out of meetings and refuse information were finally thwarted by R. B. Chandler, publisher of The Mobile Press and The Mobile Register.

Agreement Kept a Secret

Administration supporters insist that Messrs. Dunlap and Griser were so amazed that the agreement made no demands concerning the elimination of segregation, that the two did not wish the terms of the agreement made public, preferring, they insist, that the impression continue to exist that the company was under the heel of the New Deal's 8802.

The workers grew restless. They wanted to know how matters had been settled. The shipyard added to unrest by posting Bulletin 86, which read:

"This is to advise that any one, regardless of rating, found reading any newspaper or other periodical, with the exception of 'Fore and Aft' [the company publication], whether they are on shift or off are subject to discharge. You are paid by the United States to bend every effort to win the war and there is no excuse whatever for defrauding the government in this manner."

ALABAMA

This bulletin was posted on June 4 and intensified the desire of the workers to know what they had every right to be acquainted with, the terms and conditions under which they would work. It is still a mystery how the shipbuilding company could block publication of facts which were the equal property of four government agencies.

When Mr. Cox learned of Bulletin 86, he and Hervey Allen of WMC came to Mobile and used rods which had been in pickle for some time. Meanwhile Mr. Chandler had written an editorial which annoyed Judge Tisdale J. Touart of the Mobile Inferior Criminal Court.

Editorial in Mobile Newspaper

The Mobile publisher, commenting on the handling of cases concerned with shipyard rioters, wrote:

"These defendants either were guilty of something or they were not guilty. If they were guilty of violating the law, they should have been given jail sentences. If they had violated no law, they should not have been haled into court. Nor, in our opinion, should Judge Tisdale J. Touart have resorted to a peace bond as a toss-up between conviction and acquittal, as he did in the case of one defendant."

The editorial appeared in The Register Monday. Judge Touart demanded a retraction and apology. The publisher replied:

"The editorial was necessary for the public good."

Mr. Chandler was served with a contempt citation Tuesday which fixed a hearing for yesterday morning and directed the publisher to show cause why he "should not be committed for contempt."

Judge Touart offered Mr. Chandler another opportunity to retract and to apologize in lieu of punishment for contempt. The publisher again refused to avoid the issue and was fined $10 and sentenced to serve six hours in prison.

Probate Judge Norvelle R. Leigh Jr., after granting a writ of habeas corpus, released the publisher on bond of $500. Judge Leigh set the review of the case for June 28.

"The Press-Register," said Mr. Chandler, "fighting for its Constitutional right to serve as a free newspaper, will continue to voice editorial criticism of any similar action of this court."

In his statement for the information of the workers at the shipyard and of the public, Mr. Cox ripped into the shipbuilding company's Bulletin 86 and in passing made mention of the citation for contempt.

"The withholding of information essential to a disturbed citizenry, the issuance or an order forbidding the reading of any publication in the shipyards on or off duty except the company publications and the citation by a local court of a local publisher for contempt because of editorial comment pointing out inherent treatment in the case of a man arrested for fomenting violence at the yards impelled me," said Mr. Cox, "as Regional Director of the Office of War Information, to make public the verified authenticated facts of this unfortunate situation."

Mr. Cox asserted that looking toward the utilization of the highest skill of white and colored workers for shipbuilding construction with the least possible friction and infraction of traditional customs, the United States Government on May 3 recommended to the company in writing a plan for utilizing workers at their higher skills.

"The plan recommended," said Mr. Cox, "included a number of points, major among which was that a separate shipway be assigned exclusively for Negro workers. This matter of separate ways for white and for Negro workers was considered by a local committee after the riot. The plan finally adopted differed from that of the government in only one important way, the final agreement provided for four shipways instead of one.

Company's Action Discussed

"Announcement of approval of this final agreement was made in Washington on Friday, June 4. Although directly affecting nearly 30,000 workers, 22,600 whites and 6,700 Negroes, and the public as well, the text of the agreement was withheld locally until released Monday night, June 7.

"During the time between the approval of the agreement and the night of its release this week, there had been repeated demands by the workers, by the public and the press for the making public of the text of the agreement.

"The continued suppression of the agreement gave rise to new rumors, specious reports, and complaints that there were some dark secret provisions which would operate against the interests of the parties affected. The simple text, which provides four ways for Negro workers and disturbs no traditions, shows that the issue was met in a straight-forward fashion.

"Obviously connected with the reluctance to make public necessary facts was the action of the company on June 4 when it issued its Bulletin 86."

Joerg Blames the Company

MONTGOMERY, Ala., June 12 (AP)—Lieut. Col. Robert E. Joerg, acting adjutant general of Alabama, declared in a report to Governor Chauncey Sparks today that recent racial disturbances at Mobile "can be laid at the door of the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company."

In his report Col. Joerg recommended that to the State guard be issued gas masks and rifles equipped with bayonets instead of shotguns as at present. He asked that the shipbuilding company "be informed that they must be responsible for the interior security of their plant and the discipline of their employes."

JUN 13 1943

Guards Patrol Mobile After Disturbance At Shipyard

May 27, 1943

Mobile, Ala., May 25—(AP)—Mobile was heavily patrolled tonight following a shipyard racial disorder which resulted in upwards of 7,000 Negro workers being called from their jobs throughout the city.

Three companies of state guards stood on "the elert" under orders of Governor Chauncey Sparks, awaiting a call in event of a spread of the disorder which resulted in eight men being injured at the Alabama Drydock and shipbuilding company.

The disturbance, Police Chief D. E. McFayden said, occurred when Negro welders were assigned to work on the same job with white welders. Police quelled the outbreak and the plant resumed operations after sending home all Negro employes.

Company spokesmen would not estimate the number of Negroes sent away, but Frank Jones, president of the Central Trades Council of Mobile, said he had ordered all Negro members of A. F. of L. unions throughout the city to leave their jobs as a protective move, and said there were 7,000 of these. CIO unions are the recognized bargaining agents at the shipyard, and private sources estimated the number of Negroes sent away there at "several thousand."

Other precautions taken against a spread of the disorders, with city officials concentrating their efforts at the time the day shift left the plant, included the closing of all state-owned liuqor stores in Mobile and Baldwin counties on order of Governor Sparks, and the banning of beer and other alcoholic beverage sales in Mobile by Mayor Charles A. Baumhauer.

A small contingent of soldiers was sent from Brookley Field when the disturbance first started, and they stood guard at the plant, but Governor Sparks said he probably would use state guards rather than soldiers in event any situation developed which local authorities could not handle. He said about 25 state guards would be signed to work with them, as a precaution against any disorder.

Continued on Page 2, Column 3

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.
MAY 28 1943

Race Situation 'Calm' In Mobile Shipyards

Mobile, where State Guard units were sent Tuesday night following a clash between white and negro shipyard workers, was reported by Gov. Sparks Friday afternoon to be calm. Of the eigh men injured, seven negroes and one white. All were given first aid treatment and released, but Governor Sparks said about having Negro welders assigned to work with them, as a serious, McFadyen said about 25 state troopers were sent to Mobile immediately upon learning of the disturbance. He said a company of state troopers was on the night shift and a company of soldiers was on the scene of the trouble

ing adjutant-general, Col. Joerg reported, however, that only about 20 per cent of negroes employed at the plant of the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company had returned to work, and that a certain amount of "agitation" continued among workers in the crowded seaport, with the situation being closely watched for possible developments.

Col. Joerg said that the Montgomery and Tuscaloosa State Guardsmen "probably" would be sent home Saturday or Sunday, to be replaced, if needed, by troops from other parts of the State.

MAY 30 1943

State Guard In Mobile To Quiet Races

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Three Companies Sent From Montgomery As War Workers Clash

Negroes Off Jobs

Sparks Moves Swiftly To Restore Shipyard Order After Rioting In Morning

MAY 26 1943

Montgomery State Guardsmen, and those from several other stations, were rushed Tuesday night to Mobile, where a tense situation was reported after a racial clash in a big shipyard resulting, according to Mobile dispatches, from negro welders having been assigned to work with whitemen workers. Report from Mobile was that several negroes and one white man received injuries in the disturbance Tuesday morning, which soldiers and police were called on to quell, and that order was restored only when all negroes in the shipyard, numbering "several thousand" were sent home. Bricks, fists and clubs figured in the melee. Another 7,000 negroes were reported idle there when A. F. of L. ordered all negro members of its unions in the city to leave their jobs, "as a protective measure."

Headed by Col. George Cleere, commanding officer of the State Guard, approximately 400 Montgomery guardsmen left in special-ly chartered buses for the troubled seaport about 9 o'clock last night. The units comprised Company 56, Lieut. J. L. Thompson; Company 57, Lieut. C. A. Barton, and Supply Headquarters Detachment, Maj. Charles A. Beasley. Also dispatched to Mobile were the Tuscaloosa, Andalusia and Foley guard companies, which with the two Mobile units, will place under Col. Cleere's command there seven companies approximating 400 officers and men.

MAY 26 1943

Governor Acts Swiftly

Moving promptly to maintain order, Gov. Chauncey Sparks in addition to ordering out the State Guard, directed Highway Patrol Chief Van Buren Gilbert to throw available patrolmen into Mobile, with result that 45 were dispatched there from a number of points in the State. Heading the detachment from Montgomery were Capt. N. W. Kimbrough, Lieut. Tom Carlisle and Sergt. W. B. Little.

Tuesday evening witnessed a hurry and bustle in State Guard circles here, as Guardsmen, called hastily from their civilian routine, donned uniforms, grasped arms and boarded the buses for Mobile. They went about the job with soldierly dispatch, armed with shotguns and a plentiful supply of buckshot ammunition, Thompson submachine guns, and gas guns, and appeared confident of their ability to handle the situation. State Highway Patrol headquarters witnessed similar prompt emergency action, with Chief Van Buren Gilbert at long distance telephone giving orders to his men at first one station and then another over the State to head for Mobile in haste.

Gov. Sparks revealed Tuesday afternoon that he had declined a suggestion from a source he did not disclose, that he request the use of Federal troops to keep order at Mobile. He said that he considered it the duty of the State, and local authorities, to maintain order and protect lives and property.

Finance Director Hayse Tucker and Highway Director G. R. Swift were sent by the Governor to Mobile Tuesday afternoon as his personal representatives with authority to act for the executive. Col. Robert Joerg, acting as adjutant general in the illness of Gen. Ben Smith, also left for Mobile Tuesday afternoon.

All State liquor stores in Mobile and Baldwin counties were closed by order of Gov. Sparks, while Mobile city authorities banned beer sales there.

Mobile is in the area of a down-State blackout ordered by the Army for Wednesday night. The blackout area comprises that part of Alabama lying in the Mobile, Pensacola and Dothan warning districts, embracing eleven counties and parts of five others, in addition to adjacent areas in Florida and Mississippi. Haygood Paterson, state defense council director, was to leave early Wednesday for Mobile to observe the blackout.

MAY 26 1943

Urge FDR to Act In Mobile Clash

The Daily Worker

President Roosevelt was called on yesterday in the interest of the war effort to order the return of Negro workers in Mobile, Alabama, to their war jobs and to have authorities "identify and punish those guilty" of beating and firing those workers.

New York, N. Y.

The demand was made by Charles Collins, executive secretary of the Negro Labor Victory Committee, in connection with the outrage which took place May 26 at the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding Co. Eight men, seven of whom were Negroes, were injured in a provocation there, and 7,000 Negro workers were dismissed from the jobs.

MAY 27 1943

SCORE DISUNITY

Mr. Collins' statement, addressed to President Roosevelt, War Manpower Commissioner McNutt, Gov. Chauncey Sparks of Alabama, the president of the Mobile Shipyard Company, President John Green of the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, CIO, and others, follows in part:

"The Negro Labor Victory Committee of Greater New York, an organization composed of elected Negro and white trade unionists from the AFL, CIO and Railroad Brotherhoods views with alarm the situation that was allowed to develop in the Pinto Yards of the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company on May 25th. Our feelings on this situation were expressed in the statement of Mr. Charles Hanson, Southern Regional Director of the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, CIO: 'It was a great day for Hitler and the Mikado.' Throughout the country, Negro and white workers are working together, side by side, producing the war materials to defeat the accursed enemies of our Nation and it is evident that the people responsible for this disturbance are the agents and friends of Hitler.

"The beating of Negro workers and sending them away from the job is the surest way to satisfy these people and to create disunity. We demand that all workers resume their places on the production line without further delay and with full protection, and that a committee made up of representatives of management, the unions and the government, begin an investigation to identify and punish those guilty for this outrage."

MAY 27 1943

PROVOKE CLASH

(Special to the Daily Worker)

MOBILE, May 26.—On the day the House passed the anti-poll tax bill, enemies of the war provoked an outbreak of Negro and white workers here at the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding Co. disrupting production of battleships.

Eight men, seven of whom were Negroes, were hurt and 7,000 Negro workers were ordered off their jobs throughout the city. Tension ran high as seven companies of State Guardsmen were called out under orders of Gov. Chauncey Sparks.

The outbreak was quelled and plant operations reported resumed after the Negro employes were sent home.

Charles Hanson, regional director of the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers, CIO, declared that the disturbance was "wholly unnecessary."

"We claim that some agitators started it in an attempt to sabotage the war effort," he said. "It was a great day for Hitler and the Mikado."

MAY 27 1943

The 7,000 Negro workers were ordered to quit working by Frank Jones, president of the Central Trades Council of Mobile. The CIO is the recognized bargaining agent at the shipyard.

A small contingent of soldiers have been sent into the city from Brookley Field to stand guard at the plant. The governor has sent in an additional 45 State highway patrolmen.

Police Chief D. D. McFadyen said that about 25 men were involved in the outbreak.

49,000 Akron Workers Spurn WLB Warning

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Board Refuses to Act While They Are Idle; Other Plant Stoppages

By the Associated Press

The idleness of 49,000 rubber workers in Akron continued yesterday in the face of a War Labor Board warning that it will not act upon their grievances until the workers resume their producetion of war goods.

MAY 26 1943

The greatest idleness in the history of the "rubber capital" halted production at the city's principal companies—Goodyear, Goodrich and Firestone. The work stoppages started Saturday after the WLB granted the workers a 3-cents an hour raise; they had asked 8 cents. WLb said the basic hourly pay in the industry averages $1.15 to $1.20.

WLB said it will not take up a reconsideration of the decision, as sought by the workers, while they "are in violation of their no-strike pledge."

MAY 26 1943

Racial Flare-up

In Mobile, Ala., yesterday the assignment of Negroes to work with white welders in a shipyard provoked a disturbance in which, Police Chief D. E. McFayden said, several Negroes were beaten. The Negroes were sent home, and about 7000 more men became idle when the A. F. L. Central Trades Council ordered all A. F. L. workers engaged in any construction jobs in the city to return to their homes.

Police took several steps to prevent a spread of disorder in Mobile, including the closing of all liquor stores and prohibition of the sale

Negro Group Wants Negro Soldiers In Mobile Section

MAY 26 1943

WASHINGTON, May 25.—(AP)—Edgar G. Brown, director of the National Council, said tonight the council had asked President Roosevelt to send troops to Mobile, Ala., where several men have been injured in racial disorders at the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding Company.

MAY 26 1943

Brown said the council, which he said represented several negro church organizations, sent the following telegram to the President:

"As commander in chief of

Five thousand men were affected had locked out the workers. The Spicer Manufacturing Co. plant in Toledo, Ohio, among other materials. More than 200 C. I. O. workers out at a Cleveland plant of the American Steel & Wire Co., United States Steel subsidiary. A C. I. O. official declined comment; the company said the walkout was in protest against a new job-rating plan.

MAY 27 1943

Four Alabama coal mines, employing 2750, were idle but others, employing 2500, resumed partial operations. The walkouts protested dispute over a discharge and reclassification of certain workers struck for more work stoppages last month.

MAY 26 1943

A bus strike started in Utica, N. Y., while in Baltimore transit workers left their jobs to attend a union meeting. Approximately 180 fines levied for participation in coke oven workers struck for more money at Bethlehem Steel's Spar-

Shutdown Affects 5000

had caused curtailment of production. A United Automobiles Workers official declared the company

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE

35c-1943

Race Riot in Mobile

New Republic

Another shameful chapter was added last week to our history of race-rioting when whites attacked Negroes in the Alabama Shipyards in Mobile. White workers, estimated by the company at 500, and by their victims at 5,000 in number, fell upon Negro workers, clubbing and stoning them, injuring a score. The reason—some twelve Negro workers had been upgraded to welding jobs.

JUN 7 1943

New York, N. Y.

Race problems in the South are too complicated to permit a simple assignment of blame. Nevertheless, responsibility for harmonious race relations in defense industries must be shared by both capital and labor. Employers must be made to realize that the purely negative institution of company guards—always prejudiced in favor of the white workers—is an insufficient discharge of their social responsibility. Trade unions must face an even greater responsibility in educating their membership. So long as race relations in industry are at the mercy of brutal police forces and prejudiced or indifferent trade unions, riots will continue to jeopardize not only our war production but the safety of the country as a whole.

JUN 7 1943

Accuse False Rumors Of Leading To Clash

MAY 27

Daily World

Atlanta, Georgia

MOBILE, Ala.—(S N S) — The clash between colored and white workers Tuesday at the Pinto Island yard of the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company resulted from "false rumors" that Negro welders were to be added to white crews, D. R. Dunlap, Company president, said.

Federal and state troops stood guard Wednesday as insurance against any recurrence of racial disorders at the shipyard. The clash Tuesday left an estimated 10,000 colored workers idle in this area.

Approximately 20 colored persons were injured and several are believed dead as a result of the mob attack by white workers on Negroes employed by the shipyard.

Approximately 600 soldiers from the Brookleyfield Army Air Depot were on guard Wednesday morning.

In Washington, Edgar G. Brown, director of the National Negro Council, said the Council had requested President Roosevelt "in the name of Negro soldiers and sailors fighting and dying for democracy and Negro civilians on the homefront." to declare marital law at the Mobile shipyard.

SHIPYARD 'JIM CROW' RULE HINTED BY WLB

Washington Post

Washington, D. C.

By United Press.

ATLANTA, June 2.—The "proper and realistic" solution of difficulties at the Alabama Dry Dock & Shipbuilding Co. in Mobile, where racial trouble flared to near-riot proportions last week, is to maintain separate shipyards for white and colored workers, Regional Director B. F. Ashe of the War Manpower Commission said here today.

Ashe's statement was the first official notice of the solution reached by company, labor and WMC officials, and under which the yards have returned to normal operation. He emphasized that although several thousand Negro workers were sent to their homes as a safety measure, work on ships was not halted.

"The present basis of agreement that separate shipways should be maintained for colored workers, thus enabling them to participate in all grades of skills employed on the hulls of ships, seems to solve at on eand teh same time both the difficulty of upgrading Negro workers adequately and that of providing them with adequate protection while at work in designated ways apart from the whites," he said.

ALABAMA

Army Still on Guard at Mobile Shipyard

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sent Home Wednesday FEPC Calls Soldiers Back Until

JUN 12 1943

By WILLIAM A. BROWER
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

MOBILE, Ala. — While the plan for providing four separate ways at the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding Company is being put into effect, Federal troops will continue to patrol the yards to prevent further trouble.

The troops were removed for several hours last Wednesday, but were sent back at the insistence of the Fair Employment Practice Committee and will remain there until the guard force is sufficiently reorganized to insure the protection of all workers.

Worked out by Federal officials, company representatives and labor leaders, after fifty workers were injured in a race riot two weeks ago, the plan will enable colored workers to upgraded in at least 12 skills.

JUN 12 1943

Just a Step

At the same time the FEPC has informed the company management that this plan is considered only a step in the compliance with a directive issued last November ordering the upgrading of colored workers in all skills.

The compromise, according to the OWI, has been approved by the chairman of the FEPC, the chairman of the Maritime Commission, the Assistant Secretary of the Navy and the chairman of the WMC.

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Under this agreement, colored workers will be employed as welders, shipfitters, drillers, reamers, chippers, caulkers, crane operators, erectors, riggers and carpenters on four ways at the north end of the Pinto Island yards.

JUN 12 1943

An FEPC spokesman said Monday that the company will be expected to upgrade colored workers in the electrical and mechanical trades as soon as they could be trained, although nothing to this effect was stipulated in the plan.

Approximately 5,000 workers will be employed by the company to meet its immediate needs. Most of these will be hired in skilled jobs.

Currently 7,000 colored workers are employed in the yard. Of these, however, only about 52 are employed in skilled capacities.

Will Build Hulls

For the time being colored craftsmen will construct the hulls of the ships and when they are ready for outfitting whites will take over. In some instances, the FEPC spokesman said, white and colored craftsmen will work together on the same ship.

In addition, colored workers will still be used as laborers in other parts of the yard, according to this plant.

Meanwhile, JUN 12 1943 meeting at which the plan was supposed to be submitted to the company employees for approval did not materialize last week after the navy and maritime commission announced that they would not be represented.

Workers continued to return to their jobs throughout last week, and a statement by the company management Monday said that the yards are now operating on normal basis.

AFL DISPLACES THOUSANDS OF RACE WORKERS

Pittsburgh Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

June 5, 1943

MOBILE, Ala., June 3—Racial friction developing from a prolonged fight between the AFL and CIO shipworkers unions flared here last week after Negro welders had been placed on the same job with white welders at the Alabama Drydock and shipbuilding company. Seven Negroes and one white man are reported to have received minor injuries as the riot reached fever heat.

Police and troops were called in to quell the disturbance which was rapidly growing in intensity throughout the shipyard. Violence flared when a white ship welder objected to working alongside Negroes and an argument ensued. Others of both races joined the melee and began hurling fragments of metal and sticks at each other.

ORDER TO DESERT JOBS

AFL union officials immediately ordered more than 7,000 Negro workers in the city to leave their jobs. These expelled workers began milling about the streets of Mobile bitterly protesting having been ousted from their jobs, while white workers were gathered to replace them. According to union officials this was done as a temporary measure against further trouble until friction has been subsided. Negro leaders of Mobile see this as a possible rebuff to the attempts of the CIO shipworkers union to enforce non-discriminatory employment of Negro and white workers and feel that Negroes will not be rehired in the yard as welders and other crafts.

Feeling is tense throughout the Negro section and city police have been placed on the alert to check any evidences of further trouble. However, Chief of Police D. E. McFadyen has issued an order that no unnecessary arrests be made.

Negro Ministers Ask Workers In Mobile To Return To Work

Birmingham Ala. News

WMC Announces Job Releases Are Withheld Until Situation Clears

May 30, 1943

MOBILE, Ala.—(AP)—Negro ministers Saturday appealed to all Negro shipyard workers in this area to return immediately to their jobs under "guarantees of ample protection" from federal, state and local authorities.

The plea, made by the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, followed announcement by the War Manpower Commission's area director, Dr. Burton R. Morley, that no Negro or white workers from the Mobile district would be given release to work in other plants until the situation at the shipyard of the Alabama Dry Dock & Shipbuilding Company, is normal.

Federal and state troops remained on duty here as many of the company's employes, both white and Negro, remained away from their tasks as an aftermath of racial disorders in the yard last Tuesday.

Dr. Morley said work releases were being denied because "adequate steps have been taken to provide protection," and he warned that any person "found responsible for the unauthorized work stoppage will be barred from war work anywhere in the country."

The WMC area director also said he expects full government approval of a new program for the shipyard worked out Friday at a conference between government, labor and company officials. Details of the plan have not been made public.

No official of the shipyard has estimated the number of workers idle.

NAACP Condemns Segregation In Mobile Shipyard

MOBILE, Ala. — The NAACP urged to oppose the compromise called JUN 12 1943 War Manpower Commission plan. Not only is segregation a step this week to revoke the action proposed by backward, said the NAACP, but it sociation charged. Burton R. Morley, area director, to will be economically discrimina- "Either the United States Gov- ordered more than 7,000 Negro workers in the city to leave their jobs. These expelled workers began milling about the streets of Mobile bitterly protesting having been ousted from their jobs, while white workers were gathered to replace them. According to union officials this was done as a temporary measure against further trouble until friction has been subsided. Negro leaders of Mobile see this as a possible rebuff to the attempts of the CIO shipworkers union to enforce non-discriminatory employment of Negro and white workers and feel that Negroes will not be rehired in the yard as welders and other crafts.

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JUN 12 1943

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

Dangerous Business in the Shipyards

Birmingham Post—

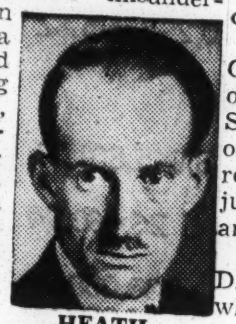
Racial Friction Caused By Bad Judgment Of Someone

Birmingham, Ala

By S. Burton Heath

Somebody in Mobile has been flirting with disaster, not only for himself, which might be none of our business, but also for the United States, the United Nations and the future of democratic institutions.

The recent racial misunderstandings in the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding Co.'s yard, now temporarily or permanently solved, resulted from bad judgment at best and bad faith at worst.



HEATH

The latter interpretation has been suggested by the local representative of the OWI and by the acting adjutant-general of Alabama.

The OWI accuses the company, implicitly, of deliberately taking steps which resulted in race rioting, in which 20 workers were injured, for the purpose of casting disrepute upon the Federal Government's fair employment practices program.

Acting Adjt.-Gen. Robert E. Joerg has reported to Gov. Chauncey Sparks that the company is responsible for the racial disturbances. General Joerg's report makes it clear that this rioting was not an inevitable outcome of the deep-rooted Negro problem in the South.

According to the OWI, there was an agreement that four shipways should be set aside for Negro workmen. The company succeeded in keeping news of this sensible agreement from the workers until R. B. Chandler, publisher of The Mobile Press-Register, managed to break through the conspiracy of silence.

The mismanagement or worse involved in this situation is serious because, by tactfulness and common sense, Southern airplane makers had succeeded in working out satisfactory solutions of the race problem so as to use many Negro workers, and shipbuilders were trying to do likewise, but the Mobile rioting has frightened the shipbuilders and set back the entire program for utilizing available Southern manpower to the maximum.

This incident can and probably will be repeated in shipyards throughout the country, which at this moment continue to be the most critical of all critical war weapons.

JUL 7 1943

Mobile Ship Welders' Race Riot Halts Work

Knoxville Tenn. Journal

May 26, 1943

MOBILE, Ala., May 25 (AP)—Mobile was heavily patrolled tonight following a shipyard racial disorder which resulted in upwards of 7,000 Negro workers being called from their jobs throughout the city.

Three companies of State Guards stood on "the alert" under orders of Governor Chauncey Sparks awaiting a call in event of a spread of the disorder which resulted in eight men being injured at the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding Company.

The disturbance, Police Chief D. E. McFadyen said, occurred when Negro welders were assigned to work on the same job with white welders. Police quelled the outbreak and the plant resumed operations after sending home all Negro employes.

Company spokesmen would not estimate the number of Negroes sent away, but Frank Jones, president of the Central Trades Council of Mobile, said he had ordered all Negro members of A. F. of L. unions throughout the city to leave their jobs as a protective move, and said there were 7,000 of these. CIO unions are the recognized bargaining agents at the shipyard and private sources estimated the number of Negroes sent away at "several thousand."

Other precautions taken against a spread of the disorders, with city officials concentrating their efforts at the time the day shift left the plant, included the closing of all state-owned liquor stores in Mobile and Baldwin counties on order of Governor Sparks, and the banning of beer and other alcoholic beverage sales in Mobile by Mayor Charles A. Baumhauer.

A small contingent of soldiers was sent from Brookley Field when the disturbance first started, and they stood guard at the plant. Governor Sparks, however, said he probably would use State Guards rather than Army troops in event any situation developed which local authorities could not handle. He sent 25 state highway patrolmen to Mobile immediately upon learning of the disorder.

While Chief McFadyen said he understood the disturbance started as a protest of white welders about having Negro welders assigned to work with them, the company said there were no Negro welders on the day shift. But some had been assigned on the night shift. A company investigation was started to determine if this was the cause of the trouble.

Of the eight men injured, seven were Negroes. All were given first aid at the shipyard, and injuries were not regarded as serious, company officials said. McFadyen said about 25 men in all were involved in the disturbance.

MAY 27 1943

Mobile Calm But Negroes Stay Off Jobs

Advertiser

MAY 27 1943

Montgomery, Ala.

State Guardsmen To Be Recalled At Weekend If Quiet Still Prevails

Mobile was reported quiet Wednesday, after units of the State Guard and highway patrolmen had been sent there following clashes between white and negro workers at the shipyard of the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company, Tuesday. The situation had calmed down so that Hayse Tucker, State finance director, and G. R. Swift, highway director, sent to Mobile Tuesday by Gov. Sparks as his personal representatives, returned to Montgomery Wednesday afternoon.

MAY 27 1943

Most of the negroes who left their jobs following the disorders had not returned to work, however, and State Guard units sent there at Gov. Sparks' order will remain for at least several days. Return of the Montgomery guardsmen who were rushed to Mobile by bus Tuesday night may be expected by Saturday or Sunday, provided the situation continues peaceful.

Gov. Sparks in a statement yesterday urged workers to return to their jobs, and promised equal protection of the law to members of both races. His statement follows:

"The situation at Mobile seems to be quiet. Reports from the sheriff, the adjutant general and personal representatives in Mobile indicate no likely danger of further disturbance or violence.

"I want to assure the people of Mobile that I will do everything in my power to preserve order in cooperation with the sheriff's department. Furthermore, every man will be protected in his legitimate occupation, while going to and returning from his work. On work premises he will be protected from violence, from rioting and disorder if the operators of the premises request the Guard. This purpose on my part applies to both races. They will have the equal protection of the law.

MAY 27 1943

"I urge the working people of Mobile to return to their labors. Let us not stop our war production or do anything that would bring about disorder, confusion or violence. The State Guard and detachments from the Highway Patrol will be present to protect the citizens of Mobile and to prevent violence, rioting or disorder of any kind. They are limited to this service and they are not there to prevent a strike or to break a strike or to interfere with the usual and orderly business life of the city."

MAY 27 1943

Few Negroes Return To Shipyard Jobs

MOBILE, ALA., May 26.—(AP)—The heavily patrolled waterfront of this shipbuilding center was quiet today as shipyard officials and city authorities sought the return to work of thousands of negro workers who have been idle since racial disorders, in which eight men were slightly injured, broke out Tuesday morning at one yard.

Police Chief Dudley McFadyen said the situation today had been almost without incident, although less than 200 negroes entered the yard of the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company where the trouble occurred, on the regular morning and afternoon shifts.

Two men, one white and one negro, were fined in police court during the day for failure to observe the city's "keep moving" ordinance, invoked when the racial disturbance began. Both were arrested near the entrance to the shipyard, Chief McFadyen said, after they failed to obey orders to keep moving.

U. S. troops, State Guardsmen, State Highway patrolmen and local officers continued on duty in the shipyard area.

Meanwhile, a negro mass meeting was held today to hear pleas for a return to work from company officials and from fellow negro workers in the Alabama Dry Dock yards. Two negro workers, both employes at the yard for many years, told those assembled they had worked the morning shift and "found everything calm." A company source estimated approximately 3,000 negroes were employed in the yard.

Dr. Burton R. Morley, area director for the War Manpower Commission, said today he had received "numerous requests"

Whites Stage Walkout When Negro Workers Return To Shipyards

Birmingham Ala. News

All State Guardsmen Ordered On The Alert To Prevent Any Outbreaks

May 27, 1943

MOBILE, Ala.—(AP)—A number of white shipyard workers left their jobs Thursday when a "substantial" number of Negroes returned to posts they left Tuesday after an outbreak of racial disorders, the sheriff's office reported.

In announcing it had been informed of this development, the sheriff's office said all seven companies of Alabama State Guardsmen had been ordered on the alert to prevent possible new outbreaks.

John Bouche, regional representative of the Industrial Union of Marine Shipbuilders (CIO), said Thursdays walkout, staged peacefully at 10 a.m., was unauthorized by the union and was not a union move.

A company source which could not be quoted by name said "a substantial number" of Negro workers reported for duty at the Pinto Island yard of the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company on the 7 a.m. shift.

Dr. Burton Morley, area director for the War Manpower Commission, went to the yard to investigate the walkout. He announced that if a walkout had occurred the WMC would declare a labor dispute and stop all clearances to U. S. Employment Service offices elsewhere from the Mobile district.

Two warrants charging disorderly conduct were sworn out Thursday at the sheriff's office but there was no announcement as to the incidents involved.

Soldiers still were on guard inside the yard and at the company gates.

Negro workers joined with company and city officials in urging other Negroes to return to their jobs at a mass-meeting here Wednesday. Two of the workers, both employes of Alabama Drydock & Shipbuilding Company for a number of years, told the crowd they had gone back to work on the morning shift "and found everything calm."

D. R. Dunlap, company president, declared the racial disorders were the result of false rumors that Negro welding crews were to be put on duty alongside white crews. He said Negro welders went into the yard Monday, but that no white welders were at the time.

Two men, one white and one Negro, were arrested near the entrance of the shipyard Wednesday for violating orders "to keep moving" which were invoked when the disturbances began. Both were fined in City Police Court Wednesday, Chief of Police Dudley Mc-Fadyen said, reporting that no additional disorders were expected.

GIVEN SPECIAL PLAN

ATLANTA, June 5 (UP).—The Regional Office of War Information in Atlanta, announced that negro workers at the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding Company's Mobile yards will be upgraded in all skills.

President Roosevelt's committee on Fair Employment Practices has accepted the segregation plan offered by a joint committee of labor-management and federal agencies in Mobile, the OWI said.

Dr. Burton R. Morley, area director for the War Manpower Commission, said no white welders would work on jobs at the time, for the

NEGRO SHIPBUILDERS,

June 6, 1943

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

Outward Calm At Mobile With New Shipyard Setup

JUN 12 1943 Chicago, Ill. Defender

By JOHN LE FLORE
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

MOBILE, Ala. — Outward calm prevails today in this city two weeks after the wild assault by white employes on Negroes at the big Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding company shipyards but an undercurrent of tension still exists despite attempts to gloss over the situation.

The FEPC and the National Maritime Commission have worked out a plan designed to avert further race friction but undisguised dissatisfaction with its terms which provide for a Jim Crow setup in the yards has been expressed from several sources.

JUN 12 1943

Under terms of the plan four ship-ways will be set aside to be manned entirely by Negroes and here opportunities for upgrading will be available. In the beginning, Negroes will be upgraded to jobs as welders, riggers, shipfitters, caulkers, erectors, reamers, riveters, chippers and burners. Subsequently, it is the intention to further upgrade Negroes to outfitting jobs, which include electrical work, sheet metal work, carpentry and joinery, and painting.

Plan In Effect

The plan has been approved and is now in effect. The workers have returned to their jobs. A temporary delay in inaugurating the plan occurred, however, when the Navy refused to grant permission for either Admiral Emory S. Land or Admiral Howard Vickery, chairman and vice-chairman, respectively, of the National Maritime Commission, to participate personally in a public ceremony of inauguration. Telegrams announcing approval of the plan were sent instead.

The Maritime Commission creditably maintained the position throughout the dispute that Negroes would have to work in the plant and have opportunities for upgrading.

JUN 12 1943

The plan, which in effect sets up a segregated section of the yards for Negroes, while admittedly not a complete victory for non-discrimination, is regarded by FEPC as a practical solution of an explosive situation, making possible job opportunities for Negroes and uninterrupted production of ships for the war.

JUN 12 1943

It is believed by some observers that the plan will work out similarly to that at the Sun Ship company in Chester, Pa., where Dr. Emmett J. Scott is personnel officer. There the intended separate yard for Negroes has almost as many white workers in it as Negroes, and Negroes are now scattered throughout the other yards of the company.

JUN 12 1943

Negroes will be upgraded only in skills necessary to do bare hull construction work and not be employed on interior and superstructure jobs, under the plan of settlement.

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The Southern N.A.A.C.P. wired the FEPC for a comprehensive statement regarding the plan. The N.A.A.C.P. frankly advised the body that colored people rightfully expected equitable integration of Negro workers in all fundamental training and employment capacities. It regarded as unsound, unwise and unfair any plan which would permit emasculation of the purposes of Executive Order 8802, and the further abridgement of the right of Negroes to employment on any and all jobs they may be qualified to hold.

JUN 12 1943

Dr. Burton K. Morley, area director of the WMC, said that those workers who are opposed to the plan after it is presented, will be requested to sever employment connections with the company.

Objection to the upgrading of Negroes in any skill is expected from some of the rabble-rousing whites, who have been encouraged to believe that they have the right to dictate to the federal government.

JUN 12 1943

Whites Arrested

Soldiers were withdrawn from the shipbuilding company's yards one day last week, but were quickly returned to duty when Negro workers threatened to walk off the job unless protection by U. S. troops continued.

JUN 12 1943

The N.A.A.C.P. subsequently insisted that the soldiers be retained on duty in the yards until it is reasonably safe to remove them, and then reduce their numbers over an indefinite period of time.

Four whites have been arrested in connection with the riot.

James Melvin Jackson, of 103 North Claiborne street, was in the county jail last night on a charge of assault with intent to murder growing out of the dispute.

Jackson was arrested on a warrant issued by E. P. Guinane, chief of police at the yard, in which Guinane charged Jackson with "assault on an unknown Negro." Bond was set at $2,500.

G. T. Willingham, who gave his address as the shipyard plant, was arrested earlier on another warrant sworn out by Guinane charging that he used threats to do bodily harm which incited a riot at the plant. Guinane's warrant charged that Willingham had said that the Negroes should be taken into the Army and out of the shipyards.

Willingham's bond was set at $5,000.

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A careful check-up reveals that no less than fifty colored persons were injured, several seriously, and only a few whites. Among the seriously hurt colored workers is a colored woman. A partial list of the injured includes:

Mrs Virginia Richardson, 19, serious pelvis injury.

George Weaver, incised wound of scalp and face

Zenith Dock, incised wound of scalp and laceration of back.

Miss Rachel E. Mason, 34, incised wound of scalp and bruised eye.

JUN 12 1943

Mrs. Lillie Richardson, 31, lacerated mouth.

J. C. Calhoun, bruised eye.

Arthur Green, incised wound of scalp.

Frank Wiggins, incised wound of scalp.

Harold Love, incised wound of scalp.

Harris Wilson, bruised eye.

$1,000 Offered For Proof Of Ala. Riot Death

Pittsburgh Pa Courier

MOBILE, Ala., June 10—(ANP)—The Mobile Register in a front page editorial this week offered a $1,000 reward for proof that a "single person was killed in the racial conflict at the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding company's Pinto island plant last week. Several colored and white workers were injured and, according to some reports, at least one person was killed when white employers staged a riot after learning that colored welders were to be put on the same shift with white workers.

JUN 12 1943

As a result of the riot, thousands of Negroes failed to return to their jobs. Hundreds, using up their precious gasoline allowance, have been leaving here daily, causing a sharp reduction in production at the yard.

JUN 1943

Most Mobile Ship Workers Return to Jobs in 'Armistice'

PM New York, N. Y. 3

By VICTOR H. BERNSTEIN
Staff Correspondent

MOBILE, Ala., June 1.—Practically all white workers and all but 100 Negroes were back on the job yesterday at the Alabama Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co. There's a good chance the missing Negroes will be back today, if they see that the open season on skull cracking is over.

I walked through the yards yesterday and saw no hint of trouble. Some of the men—Negroes and whites—told me they intended to "put on steam" to make up for last week, during which production dropped to nearly half because 12 colored workers had been upgraded to welding jobs.

This week constitutes what you might call an armistice period. There will be no further upgrading of Negroes, and there is evidence that the 12 men over whom Tuesday's riot started may elect to stay home temporarily. Then, probably on Friday, a final solution—evolved here by representatives of the Government, the company and the union, and now under consideration in Washington for final approval—will be submitted to a mass meeting of workers at the yards.

JUN 1 1943

Nothing concerning the proposed solution has been made public. In all likelihood, it will guarantee the principle of upgrading for Negroes. But it will also provide for some type of segregation for skilled workers among them. It does not, however, provide for an all-Negro shipway in which a ship can be built from keel to superstructure by Negroes.

Such a plan has been proposed, but is not considered practicable. There are many more hundreds of men working on a ship at its launching than when its keel is laid, and under an all-Negro shipway plan employment could not be steady.

The fact is that the Alabama Company yards need at least 2500 welders. Company officials tell me they'll hire anyone, Negro or white, who can do the job. And since—as one official told me—they have "beaten the bush" and scared up the last available white welder, they are determined to go through with their plan for using Negroes.

In the end, it is the company, given the moral as well as the armed support of the Government, that will have to carry the ball. The International Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, CIO, which has the bargaining rights at the plant, has long championed Negro upgrading.

JUN 1943

There's no question that shipyards and other war plants throughout the country are watching developments here closely. They are watching management and the Federal agencies involved, such as the War Manpower Commission, the Fair Employment Practices Committee, and the U. S. Maritime Commission. If they become convinced that neither the company nor the Government is going to allow a handful of Negro-baiters, working on local prejudices, to tell the country how war shipyards must be run, Negroes will have won a major economic battle on a national scale. And the country will have more men with which to build ships.

Race Riot Case To Be Appealed

Memphis, Tenn. Commercial Appeal

Welder Charged With Hitting Negro Sectenced In Inferior Court

June 20, 1943

J. E. Christian, 17, electric welder at Alabama Dry Dock & Shipbuilding Company, charged with assault during recent racial disturbances at the Pinto Island plant, was sentenced in inferior court Saturday to pay $250 and costs or spend 90 days in jail.

Christian filed notice of appeal. Bond was set at $500.

Christian was charged with striking Zenith Dock, negro worker. L. B. Dodson, plant investigator, said he saw the youth hit the negro at least once.

The defendant admitted striking Dock after the negro was in the custody of plant guards, but said he did so because the negro appeared to be about to strike the guard. Christian said he also saw Dock cut a white man.

Dodson said no complaint of Dock cutting anyone had reached him and Dock denied cutting any person.

Memphis, Tenn. Commercial Appeal
June 6 1943

Four Mobile Ways Set Aside For Negroes

WASHINGTON, June 4.—(AP)—To settle "difficulties" at the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding Co., Mobile, Msgr. Francis E. Haas, chairman of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee, announced Friday a system whereby negroes will be allowed to grades negro workers to all skills ...ited number of ways set aside specially for them. Chairman Haas added that all ...necessary for bare hull construction on four ways will be taken by ...r Department to maintain ...nd the production of ships ...ard.

The arrangement, which was ... Bare hull construction, the committee explained, is the building ... drawn up at a conference of union, ... company, War Manpower Commis-

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

Mobile Outbreak Is Treason to War---Collins

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

JUN 14 1943

The following are excerpts of a speech made at the Negro Freedom Rally last Monday night at Madison Square Garden by Charles A. Collins, business agent of Local 6, Hotel & Restaurant Employes, AFL, and executive secretary of the Negro Labor Victory Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Fellow Trade Unionists, and Friends:

The Negro Labor Victory Committee is proud of its part in this patriotic win-the-war demonstration. All sections of organized labor, AFL, CIO, Railroad Workers and independent unions have joined hands with the Negro people so that the victory line will be held against Hitler's agents and friends in this country.

This meeting is evidence of the fact that the labor movement is beginning to understand the elementary principle that "labor in the white skin can never be free while labor in the black skin is branded." Surely organized workers must see in the Negro hating poll taxers the same forces who are straining every nerve and muscle to destroy the organized labor movement through the infamous Connally-Smith bill. This meeting serves further to demonstrate the maturing of the Negro masses who no longer seek a solution to their problems along the lines of narrow nationalism—that the Negro problem is his own and that he must fight and organize by himself.



CHARLES COLLINS

Today we understand that the long and painful struggle of 15 million black citizens is merged with that of millions of people the world over fighting against the Axis powers. All nations, all classes, all races, face tyranny and enslavement if fascism is victorious.

England, mighty ally of the United Nations, whose people have advanced from the days when hanging was the penalty for the pettiest crimes to today when the English people live under constitutional monarchy, England would be enslaved if fascism wins.

INDIA'S FATE

India, struggling under the yoke of British colonial oppression, faces a fate a thousand times worse than her present unfortunate position if fascism wins.

Canada, free and equal member of the British Commonwealth of Nations, would lose her status if fascism wins.

Jamaica, in the West Indies, whose people have just been granted greater representation in that Island's legislature, would be thrown back a hundred years if fascism wins.

America would become a fascist state lead by Hitler or his American counterpart such as Martin Dies or Gene Talmadge, the grand wizard of the KKK.

Negro men and women will return to chattel slavery, but added to their cries will be those of the Jewish people, the Catholics, the foreign born, trade unionists, and honest intellectuals.

THE MOBILE ATTACK

Hence, the people have all to lose in an Axis victory. That is why it is a people's war.

The situation in the Pinto Island yards of the Alabama Shipbuilding and Drydock Co. offers the labor movement an opportunity to play its historic role. True enough Mr. Charles Hanson, Southern regional director of the Marine and Shipbuilding workers, together with many progressive unions and representatives of the government, have spoken out against this outrage, but there should have been a spontaneous campaign similar to that which labor launched against the mine operators, and the treacherous John L. Lewis.

The situation in Pinto Island is real treason. A group of American fascists plan a brutal attack on Negro workers engaged in vital war production, an attack timed with the passage in the house of anti-poll tax bill, H R 7, timed with the revival of the FEPC by President Roosevelt, timed with the invitation of President Barclay of Liberia to America, timed with the immediate prospect of a land invasion in Europe to defeat Hitler.

We demand that the Negro workers be returned to their same jobs with adequate protection. We demand that the ring leaders be arrested and punished as traitors. There should be no concession made to these traitors by establishing a jim-crow ship building project.

Negroes expect something more from their unions than just economic gains. They expect their fellow workers to help them in their struggle. Anti-discrimination committees, Negro councils, or equal rights committees must be formed in the coming weeks in every union possible throughout the country. This is the only way that resolutions passed by these unions can be transformed into action.

Negro trade unionists must be leaders in their communities. They must participate in the problems of price control, child care, housing, progressive politics, and all phases of war activities. They must participate, instead of forever complaining about the abuses, in every struggle the common people are waging to be free.

The hand of the KKK reaches out to the North. The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company with the blessing of the Board of Estimate of the City of New York has decided to build a walled city excluding Negro tax payers.

Let me quote the words of Mr. Frederick H. Ecker, President of the company:

"Negroes and whites don't mix. Perhaps they will in a hundred years, but they don't now. If we brought them into this development it would be more detrimental, because it would depress all surrounding property."

But, you lie, Mr. Ecker, Negroes and whites do mix. Right here under your very nose 20,000 black and white Americans are united for a common purpose, thousands more in the unions of the CIO and AFL are working side by side producing the goods for victory, encouraged by the revival of the FEPC after its destruction by the Fifth columnists. Negro and white workers are mixing in the great National Maritime Union—in unions of the AFL. On the "Booker T. Washington" a mixed crew of Negro and white is commanded by a Negro skipper, Capt. Mulzac. In the White House the other day, a black president mixed with the leaders of our government, dined with them, and slept in the historic Blair House.

We will continue to mix more and more until victory is won. Longshoremen, marine workers, fur, hotel, culinary workers, railroad workers, office workers, workers in munitions industries, painters, wholesale workers, transport workers—see these Negro brothers and sisters next to you. They are your friends and allies.

Long live to the unity of Negro and white workers! Forward to a peoples' victory and a peoples' peace.

JUN 14 1943

Negro Pastors Call For Work

Montgomery, Ala., Advertiser
May 30, 1943

Shipyard Workers Told To Return To Posts At Mobile

MOBILE, ALA., May 29.—(AP)—Negro ministers today appealed to all negro shipyard workers in this area to return immediately to their jobs under "guarantees of ample protection" from Federal, State and local authorities.

The plea, made by the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, followed announcement by the War Manpower Commission's area director, Dr. Burton R. Morley, that no negro or white workers from the Mobile district would be given releases to work in other plants until the situation at the shipyard of the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company is normal.

Federal and State troops remained on duty here as many of the company's employes, both white and negro, remained away from their tasks as an aftermath of racial disorders in the yard last Tuesday.

Dr. Morley said work releases were being denied because "adequate steps have been taken to provide protection," and he warned that any person "found responsible for the unauthorized work stoppage will be barred from war work anywhere in the country."

The WMC area director also said he expects full government approval of a new program for the shipyard worked out yesterday at a conference here between government, labor and company officials. Details of the plan have not been made public.

No official of the shipyard has estimated the number of workers idle.

Committee Against Absolute Segregation Of Negroes In Mobile

News
Birmingham, Ala.
JUL 8 1943

WASHINGTON —(AP)— The government's reorganized fair employment practices committee said Wednesday it "cannot give its approval to the complete segregation of Negroes" on four of 12 ways at a Mobile shipyard which was the scene of recent race trouble.

Msgr. Francis J. Haas, chairman of the new seven-member committee, said the resolution did not mean that the group had taken "either an anti-segregation or a pro-segregation stand," but was refusing to accept the action at Mobile as a precedent "one way or the other."

JUL 8 1943

As read by Msgr. Haas, the resolution on the arrangement to end the trouble by segregating Negro workers on the four ways, said:

"The committee accepts the accomplished fact of the settlement made at Mobile to end a crisis in war production, except that the committee cannot give its approval to the complete segregation of Negroes on the four ways and does not consider that as a precedent."

At a press conference, Msgr. Haas, back from a three-day trip to Detroit, said he found no evidence that the Ku Klux Klan or the Axis powers had inspired the Michigan city's recent race riots. The Catholic priest expressed the opinion that "inadequate housing, recreation and transportation" were responsible.

JUL 8 1943

Following its first meeting since it was restored to an independent agency by President Roosevelt, who earlier had made it a unit of the War Manpower Commission, the committee announced it will hold hearings here Sept. 15-17 on charges that some 26 railroads and six unions discriminated against Negroes in employment practices.

Haas said most of the railroads involved operate in the Southeast, but that their names and those of the unions were not available at present.

Negro Ship Workers Are Asked Back

Knoxville Tenn. Journal

MOBILE, Ala., May 26 (AP)—The heavily patrolled waterfront of this shipbuilding center was quiet today as shipyard officials and city authorities sought the return to work of thousands of Negro workers who have been idle since racial disorders, in which eight men were injured, broke out Tuesday morning at one yard.

Police Chief Dudley McFayden said the situation today had been calm." A company source estimated approximately 3000 Negroes were employed in the yard.

Meanwhile, a Negro mass meeting was held today to hear pleas to work from committees and from fellow workers in the Alabama Shipbuilding Co., where the regular Drydocks Yards. Two Negro workers at the yard for yard of the Alabama Drydock & Shipbuilding Co. officials and pany officials told those assembled the almost without incident, although for a return to work of less than 200 Negroes entered the Drydock & worked the morning shifts.

U. S. troops, state guardsmen, many years, told "found everything state highway patrolmen and local officers continued on duty in the

35c-1943

Alabama

Mobile Outbreak Is Blamed On Yard

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

JUN 20 1943

MOBILE, Ala.—(ANP) — Company officials, who hoped to discredit the FEPC and Executive Order 8802, were blamed for conditions leading to the recent racial rioting at the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding company in a statement issued last week by Marvin Cox, regional director of the Office of War Information. Government agencies also were mentioned as being parties along with the company to a "conspiracy of silence" in dealing with the labor situation and steps taken to ease tension. D. R. Dunlap, president, and J. M. Griser, vice president, are the company officials accused of playing all ends against both the middle and the rim and hoping that the resultant trouble would be placed on the FEPC and federal efforts to give Negro labor something approaching a square deal.

There seems to have been an understanding that entire Negro crews, riggers, welders and others would be assigned to certain shipyards. However, on the night shift of May 24, an all-Negro welding group was assigned to a single shipway where there were no white welders, but it was not one of the ways which was supposed to be assigned exclusively to Negro workers.

The company did not make this situation clear and observers state the management expected trouble to follow and figured that the blame would be put on the New Deal Administration. On May 25, rioting followed. The company immediately issued a statement saying this was the result of efforts to comply with Executive Order 8802.

Of the 80 workers injured in the rioting, nearly all were colored. However, one of the most seriously hurt was a white worker who attempted to rescue a Negro worker from two of the company guards who were beating up the black worker. This indicates the real company attitude toward its Negro employes.

TROUBLE ANTICIPATED

The speed with which soldiers arrived at the scene has been cited as evidence that trouble was anticipated. There are still federal soldiers stationed in the plant and the state militia is sitting on the sideline, watching developments.

It is known that the shipbuilding company has been having labor trouble. The labor turnover during the first quarter of 1943 was 2000 monthly although that currently has been reduced to about 1,200 to 1,500. The plant hires around 30,000.

In the conference that followed the rioting, it was decided that four shipways be set aside for Negro workers. Neither the company nor the Maritime commission would let the terms be made public. However, R. R. Chandler, publisher of the two dailies, the Mobile Press and the Mobile Register, finally thwarted efforts to keep the press and the public in the dark.

According to Roctevelt's supporters, Dunlap and Griser were so amazed that the agreement made no demands concerning the elimination of segregation that they did not want the terms made public, preferring that the impression continue that the company was still adhering strictly to Executive Order 8802.

WORKERS RESTLESS

Meanwhile workers grew restless and wanted to know how the trouble had been settled. Instead of letting employers in on this vital matter, the shipyard management added to the unrest by posting Bulletin 86 on June 4 which said that anybody found reading any newspaper or periodical while on company property, other than "Fore and After the company publication, would be discharged.

When Cox of OWI heard of Bulletin 86 and the fact that the ship company had blocked publication of facts which were the equal property of four government agencies, thus contributing to dissatisfaction on the part of employes who had every right to know what was going on, he and Harvey Allen of WMC came to Mobile and took matters in hand.

Cox released a statement for the information of both employes and public in which he ripped into Bulletin 86 as well as the now famous conviction of Chandler, the editor, for criticising Judge Tisdale J. Touart's handling of riot cases brought before him.

Utilization of the highest skill of white and colored workers for shipbuilding construction with the least possible friction and infraction of traditional customs caused the government as far back as May 3 to recommend assigning separate shipways exclusively for Negro workers, Cox said. This plan was submitted in writing.

SUGGESTIONS IGNORED

But the company ignored this suggestion and went ahead with its steps that led to the riot. Immediately after the race trouble, a local committee met and adopted a plan that differed from that proposed on May 3 only in the number of separate shipways, the final agreement providing for four instead of one.

"Announcement of approval of this agreement was made in Washington on Friday, June 4," Cox said. "Although directly affecting nearly 30,000 workers, 22,600 whites and 6,700 Negroes, and the public as well, the text of the agreement was withheld locally until released Monday night, June 7.

"During the time between the approval of the agreement and the night of its release, there had been repeated demands by the worked, by the public and the press for the making public of the text of the agreement.

"The continued suppression of the agreement gave rise to new rumors, specious reports, and complaints that there were some dark secret provision which would operate against the interests of the parties affected. The simple text, which provides four ways for Negro workers and disturbs no traditions, shows that the issue was not met in a straightforward fashion.

"Obviously connected with the reluctance to make public necessary facts was the action of the company on June 4 when it issued its Bulletin 86."

49,000 RUBBER WORKERS PACE NATION'S STRIKERS

Age-Herald — Birmingham, Ala.

MAY 26 1943

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The idleness of 49,000 rubber workers in Akron continued Tuesday in the face of a War Labor Board warning that it will not act upon their grievances until the workers resume their production of war goods.

The greatest idleness in the history of the "rubber capital" halted production at the city's principal companies — Goodyear, Goodrich and Firestone. The work stoppages started Saturday after the WLB granted the workers a 3-cent-an-hour raise; they had asked 8 cents. WLB said the basic hourly pay in the industry averages $1.15 to $1.20.

WLB said it will not take up a reconsideration of the decision, as sought b ythe workers, while they "are in violation of their no-strike pledge."

In Mobile, Ala., Tuesday the assignment of Negroes to work with white welders in a shipyard provoked a disturbance in which, Police Chief D. E. McFadyen said, several Negroes were beaten up. The Negroes were sent home, and about 7,000 more men became idle when the AFL Central Trades Council ordered all AFL workers engaged in any construction jobs in the city to return to their homes.

A bus strike started in Utica, N. Y., while in Baltimore transit workers left their jobs to attend a union meeting. Approximately 180 coke oven workers struck for more money at Bethlehem Steel's Sparrows Point (Md.) plant, cutting down Baltimore's artificial gas supply.

Four Alabama coal mines, employing 2,750, were idle but others, employing 2,500, resumed partial operations. The walkouts protested fines levied for participation in work stoppages last month.

Five thousand men were affected by a shutdown of the Spicer Manufacturing Company plant in Toledo, Ohio. The company posted a notice ordering all work stoppages ,saying a dispute over a discharge and the reclassification of certain workers had caused curtailment of production, a United Automobile Workers official declared the company had locked out the workers. The company supplies parts for jeeps, among other materials.

More than 200 CIO workers walked out at a Cleveland plant of the American Steel & Wire Company, U. S. Steel subsidiary. A CIO official declined comment; the company said the walkout was in protest against a new job-rating plan.

MOBILE RACIAL DISORDERS QUIET

Birmingham Ala. Age-Herald

May 27, 1943

U. S. Troops Continue To Patrol Area; Many Workers Idle

MOBILE, Ala., May 26—(AP)—The heavily patrolled waterfront of this shipbuilding center was quiet Wednesday as shipyard officials and city authorities sought the return to work of thousands of Negro workers who have been idle since the trouble occurred on the regular morning and afternoon racial disorders, in which eight shifts.

U. S. troops, state guardsmen, state highway patrolmen and local police officers continued on duty in the shipyard area.

Meanwhile, a Negro mass meeting was held Wednesday to hear pleas for a return to work from company officials and from fellow Negro workers in the Alabama Dry Docks yard. Two Negro workers, both employes at the yard for many years, told those assembled they had worked the morning shift and "found everything calm." A company source estimated approximately 3,000 Negroes were employed in the yard.

Dr. Burton R. Morley, area director for the War Manpower Commission, said Wednesday he had received numerous requests" from Negro workers for releases from their war jobs here, but that he would grant such applications "just as we would have last week." This means, he explained, that such applications must have the approval of the employer unless the worker is willing to go through the regular appeal process.

D. R. Dunlap, Alabama Dry Dock president, said the racial disorders resulted from the spread of "false rumors" in the yard that Negro welding crews were to be put on duty alongside white crews. Dunlap said Negro crews were sent into the yard Monday night, but that no white welders were at work at that time.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH
TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE
NOT TO BE PUBLISHED OR REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY
REEL 82

White Workers Attack Welders At Mobile, Ala.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Soldiers Called; Order Restored
Only After Negroes Are Sent Home

MOBILE, Ala.—(S N S)—As a recult of a racial disturbance, Tuesday at the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding Corporation, 311 Negroes working in the yard were sent home, and according to Frank Jones, president of the Central Trades Council (AFL) 7,000 other workers were idle, when he ordered members of the A. F. of L. Union to return to their homes.

D. E. McFadyen, chief of police, said that the trouble started when Negro welders were assigned to work with white welders. Twenty-five men, the chief said, were involved in the flare-up, which made it necessary for 10 Negroes and one white man to receive first aid treatment.

Officials of the company said that there were no Negro welders on the day shift, and made it clear that an investigation was being made to determine the cause of the trouble.

As a precaution against further trouble, police authorities ordered the closing of all liquor stores and prohibited the sale of beer throughout the city. Likewise, Governor Chauncey Sparks issued an order closing state-owned stores, not only in the city, but also in Baldwin and Mobile Counties.

Soldiers from Brookley Field were rushed to the plant when the disturbance first broke out, but order was not restored until the Negro workers left the yard. Chief McFadyen also said that "several" of the Negroes were "beaten up."

Governor Sparks later sent 25 State Highway patrolmen to Mobile, and ordered three companies of the State Guard on the alert and stationed in Mobile and Baldwin Counties.

MAY 26 1943

MOBILE, Ala., June 3 — Without divulging the details, representatives of the U. S. Maritime commission, President Roosevelt's Fair Employment Practices Committee, the War Manpower Commission, shipyard officials, and members of the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, CIO, have announced a plan designed to end the dispute between white and colored workers at the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding Company's Pinto Island yards. The plan has been sent to Washington, D. C., and, pending official administrative approval, will then be submitted to shipyard workers at a mass meeting. Meanwhile, workers have been urged to return to their jobs.

The race riot here Tuesday, May 25, resulted when white workers became resentful over the hiring of colored workers. According to D. E. McFayden, chief of police, the trouble began when tools the white workers checked in on the day shift were later turned over to the fresh crew of Negro welders, whereupon a flare-up, involving about 25 men, took place. Later, it was reported that eight persons—seven colored—required first aid treatment. An unconfirmed report said at least two Negro workers were killed. Bricks and knives, in addition to menacing fists, were used in the racial disturbance, it has been learned.

USE ARMY, STATE FORCES

To quell the riot it was necessary to hurriedly invoke truckloads of soldiers from Brookley Field, while a naval shore patrol outfit and all civilian law enforcement officers were also rushed to the scene. Governor Chauncey Sparks notified local officials he was holding three companies of state guardsmen on the alert to further police the shipyards if necessary. These companies were later dispatched here for sentinel duty.

As a precautionary measure, the governor also ordered the closing of all liquor stores and places selling intoxicating beverages.

STILL FAVOR "8802".

Despite the fireworks and untoward events, it has been reliably reported that Alabama Drydock officials are determined to use skilled colored workers—in compliance with Executive Order 8802.

Company spokesmen declined to estimate the number of colored workers sent away, following the disturbance, but President Frank Jones of the Central Trades Council here said he ordered all colored members of the AFL unions throughout the city to leave their jobs as a protective measure and that there were 7,000 of these unions which were the recognized bargaining agents at the shipyards.

J. L. LeFlore, president of the Southern Regional NAACP, a local resident, said company officials encouraged the colored workers to resume work by promising adequate protection to all who returned to their jobs. Few Negroes, it is indicated, have taken that risk.

FEDERAL PROBE URGED

LeFlore made an insistent demand, last week, to federal authorities that a thorough investigation of the May 25 uprising be made. Subsequently, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People launched formal appeals with President Roosevelt, the War Manpower Commission, and other pertinent federal sources.

A. Philip Randolph, director of the March on Washington Movement, in commenting on the regrettable episode, said Negroes should demand that President Roosevelt have the U.S. Department of Justice investsigate this shameful exhibition of race prejudice and order the federal army to protect Negro workers on the jobs—and that no Negro worker should fail to stay on the job in the Mobile shipyards. Randolph also called on CIO president Philip Murray to take firm action in this matter and call out every white worker in the CIO in the Mobile shipyards unless colored workers are permitted to return to their work as welders unmolested.

RESENT SKILLED JOBS

It was conclusively pointed out that the white workers didn't mind Negroes working in the shipyards, as long as they held common unskilled jobs—because thousands of colored workers had engaged in such work in the yards and no discrimination of any kind had been staged. The fact that last week's disturbance came immediately after a substantial number of Negroes were given highly skilled jobs as welders indicates, it was explained, that the white workers' resentment centers only in the cases where Negroes are given other than unskilled work.

Plan Drawn Up To End Mobile Labor Dispute

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mobile Press Editor To Appeal Conviction On Contempt Charge

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Inferior Court Judge Sentences Him Six Hours In Jail And $10 Fine

MOBILE, Ala.—Behind the battle cry of "freedom of the press," Mobile Press and Register Publisher Ralph B. Chandler was Saturday taking his case to higher courts after being fined $10 and sentenced to six hours in jail on contempt conviction.

JUN 1 1943

The conviction arose from the newspaper's editorial criticism of an inferior Criminal Court judge, and Chandler said he would take the appeal "all the way to the United States Supreme Court if necessary to protect the constitutional freedom of the press."

A writ of habeas corpus, granted by Probate Judge Norvelle R. Leigh, Jr., freed the publisher under $500 bond and set a review of the case for June 28.

Judge Tisdale J. Touart, of the court involved in the editorial, pronounced sentence Friday after a brief hearing. He asserted that one phrase in the Monday edition of The Register was "absolutely untrue."

He was referring to the editorial statement that the court's action in fixing a $2,000 peace bond in a case arising from the May 25 racial disturbances in a Mobile shipyard was "a toss-up between conviction and acquittal."

The judge contended that Alabama law provides no other penalty.

The Press and Register position, as presented by Atty. Thomas E. Twitty, was that the judge could have charged G. T. Willingham, the defendant in question, with inciting to riot instead of the less serious charge of making threat.

Chandler was in custody of the sheriff only for the 20 minutes necessary to present petition to Judge Leigh and to obtain the $500 bond.

JUN 1 3 1943

After his release, the publisher issued this statement:

"The Press Register recognizes no jurisdiction or authority of this court over its editorial criticism at issue in this case.

"These newspapers maintain that the criticism complained of is founded on facts of record.

"The Press Register, fighting for its constitutional rights to serve as a free newspaper, will continue to voice editorial criticism of any similar action of this court."

Judge Touart, before pronouncing sentence, said that a "way was left open" for the newspaper to "correct its error" and make an apology, adding pointedly "this way is still open."

Twitty arose to announce that his case was complete, and the sentence was pronounced.

The hearing opened with a motion for dismissal from Twitty quoting from the decision of the U. S. Supreme Court in the case of The Los Angeles Times and Mirror which, he said held that "no court has the power to commit for contempt for publication."

The judge said that he was familiar with the constitutional guarantee of freedom of the press, but that when a newspaper "becomes reckless with the truth" in its criticisms of a court, "then that is contempt."

Judge Touart particularly objected to use of the word "toss-up" which he described as a term usually used to determine "who will buy the drinks, or who will handle the dice first."

The Register editorial had commented on court action in four cases arising from the racial disorders at the shipyard of Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company. Two cases were postponed, one defendant was found innocent, and Willingham was placed under the $2,000 peace bond which, Judge Touart said, has not yet been executed.

The newspaper contended that jail sentences should have been given those found guilty, and those innocent should have been released.

PROBE MOBILE ARMY AIR BASE DISCRIMINATION

Chicago Illinois Defender

NAACP Investigates Race Friction At Brookley Field Depot

MOBILE, Ala.—Because of increased racial friction among the civilian workers at the huge Brookley Field Army air depot here, the Southern Regional Conference and the Mobile Branch of the N.A.A.C.P. have launched a thorough investigation of race relations at the field.

MAY 29 1943

Simultaneously, J. L. LeFlore, chairman of the regional conference movement, filed a protest with Brig. Gen. James A. Mollison, commanding officer, charging that extensive discrimination in training and employment exists at Brookley Field. The general has already promised an exhaustive investigation of the matter.

Among the alleged troubles which could have led to race clashes were:

The slapping of a young colored woman by a white man because she unintentionally brushed against a young white woman.

A colored man being struck down with a piece of lumber by a white man during a fight involving the colored man and several whites.

The action of a civilian guard in Maxine Bush, were discharged by a were arming
pulling a chair from under a colored Captain Bobblett, officer in charge ering certain
worker, apparently ill, sitting with of the cafeteria, merely because the by the Southern N.A.A.C.P. official of the Mobile Branch, spent more
booting him from the cafeteria. Brookley Field authorities that in- reticent to discuss their findings to
head buried in hands, in the colored girls protested the abuse of the as the "usual distortion of facts" than four hours at the field several
section of the field's cafeteria. The colored worker at the hands of the whenever there is any form of days ago.
jerking up of the victim from the guard. trouble between the races.
floor, slapping him in the back and A report made to LeFlore by While N.A.A.C.P. officials are
Three colored waitresses, Cynthia formation had been given them that date, it is known that LeFlore has
Bowers, Marguerite Woodard and Negro workers of the Air Depot had several conferences with

35c-1943
Pittsburgh Courier June 5, 1943

Mobile's "Riot": The Old Pattern

Seven Negroes and one white man were injured in a fray in a Mobile, Ala., shipyard last week which started because some colored welders were assigned to a job with some white welders. Pittsburgh, Pa.

In a civilized community engaged in a global war with powerful and implacable enemies, one would have expected the shipyard proprietors to have called the police to arrest the troublemakers, told the other workers that such disturbances would not be tolerated, and then let the work of building ships go forward.

But everybody seems to have followed the old, sad pattern which has retarded the growth of the South and the entire country, and may lose the war.

Seven companies of the State Guard were called out, liquor stores were closed, sale of alcoholic beverages was banned and, worst of all, 7,000 colored workers were sent home from their jobs.

What was a minor scuffle was turned into a "race riot" with all the usual garnishment and what is more important, the shipyard lost 7,000 man days which may be the difference between victory and defeat on some far-off battlefront.

When will white people in authority learn that they cannot afford to permit old patterns of thinking and action to interfere with matters of national importance?

When will they have the courage to break with the old patterns?

Absolute Segregation Of Races The Answer To Addsco Problem

The bomb on Mobile's doorstep has not been extinguished. It still smoulders and will continue to do so unless and until officials of the Alabama Dry Dock & Shipbuilding Company and the United States Maritime Commission, jointly or severally adopt a clear-cut policy of absolute racial segregation in the operation of this great war enterprise. Mobile, Ala., Register

A preponderance of evidence shows that the violence was started by indiscreet mingling of white and negro workers, although the company management denies this. May 28, 1943

Unless a policy of complete segregation in which all-white and all-negro crews would be organized and worked separately and apart insofar as possible at this plant is adopted, an explosive situation paralizing all of Addsco's shipyard work and one which will be dangerous to peace and order in the whole community will continue to prevail.

It would be well for both company officials and the Maritime Commission to bear constantly in mind that the ingredients of a terrible catastrophe, both for the nation and Mobile lie around like loose gunpowder on Pinto Island. The situation requires intelligent and careful handling. A mistake in judgment could provide the spark to set off an explosion that would echo across the world.

The company and Maritime Commission can meet the situation, in our opinion only by working the white and negro workers in separate crews and announcing to the shipyard employes that will be an unalterable policy.

By such a policy President Roosevelt's executive order requiring the upgrading of negro workers according to their skills can be carried out to the letter. The source of friction, we believe, can thus be eliminated, and orderly production resumed.

Alabama

Separate Skilled Workers In Mobile Shipyard Dispute

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

MOBILE, Ala., June 10—Maintenance of separate shipways for white and colored skilled workers in the Pinto Island yards of the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding company was the government solution to the difficulties here in Mobile, it was announced Wednesday. Terms of the agreement were made public in Atlanta, Ga., by B. F. Ashe, regional director of the War Manpower commission. They provide that the company shall maintain separate shipways for white and colored skilled workers. Helpers and laborers will continue to work in other sections of the yard as in the past.

MASS MEETING POSTPONED

This solution was worked out by representatives of the United States Maritime commission, the War Manpower commission, the Committee on Fair Employment Practice, the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America (CIO) and the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding company.

The settlement is subject to approval by employees of the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding company at a mass meeting in Mobile. The meeting was scheduled for last Friday night, but was postponed indefinitely.

In making public the settlement Mr. Ashe described it as a "proper and realistic" solution of the difficultiets.

CONSTRUCT BARE HULLS

Under the terms of the settlement, colored workers will be used in all crafts necessary to construct bare hulls on four shipways. They will be employed as crane gangs, erectors, regulators, fitters, welders, burners, ship workers, caulkers, buffers, painters, blocking, shoring and scaffolding crews.

Colored workmen will be employed on only one shipway but will be employed on three additional shipways as rapidly as the craftsmen can be obtained.

As the hull erection crews complete their work, white outfitting craftsmen can be obtained.

The trouble at the Pinto Island Yards was said to have started when a number of colored workers were assigned to work alongside white men. All production was stopped at the yards and the colored workers were ordered by the company and union officials to go home until the trouble was settled.

FIFTY INJURED

Approximately 50 persons were injured during the outbreaks. Several women were among the more seriously injured. The casuality list included Mrs. Virginia Richardson, George Weaver, Zenith Dock, Miss Rachel E. Mason, Mrs. Lillie Mae Richardson, J. C. Calhoun, Arthur Green, Frank Wiggins, Harold Love and Harris Wilson.

In order to halt the outbreaks approximately 600 U. S. soldiers from Brookley Field Army Air Depot patrol the city.

Citizens of both races here in Mobile, jealous of the long standing reputation of the city for harmonious relations, have blamed the trouble on migrant workers and not native Mobilians.

Ministers last Saturday appealed to all shipyard workers in this area to return immediately to their jobs under "guarantees of ample protection" from federal, state and local authorities.

This followed an announcement by Dr. Burton R. Morley, that no colored or white workers from the Mobile district would be given releases to work in other plants until the situation at the shipyard is normal.

Eight Injured In Fight At Mobile Shipyard; Race Row Is Involved

Birmingham, Ala., News

Soldiers, Police Called Out; State Guardsmen Asked For Night Patrol

May 25, 1943

MOBILE, Ala. —(AP)— At least eight shipyard workers were injured, none seriously, Tuesday in a disturbance between white and Negro workers at the Pinto Island shipyard of the Alabama Dry Dock & Shipbuilding Company here, and soldiers and police were called out to maintain order.

A company spokesman who declined use of his name, said seven Negroes and one white man had been treated for injuries at the company first aid station and "others may have been less seriously hurt."

This spokesman said the company had been unable to determine how the trouble started. He said the yard was operating with its white workers, the Negroes having left after the fighting broke out about 9:30 a.m.

* * *

MAYOR CHARLES A. BAUMHAUER SAID he expected to call for State Guardsmen to help patrol Mobile's war-congested business area Tuesday night. Gov. Sparks had ordered three companies of state troops assembled for possible duty.

The company spokesman said Negroes had been employed by Alabama Dry Docks for many years and that Tuesday's outburst came without warning.

Police Chief D. E. McFadyen said "several" of the Negroes were "beaten up," and that order was restored when all the Negroes in the yard, operated by the Alabama Drydock & Shipbuilding Corporation, were sent home.

Police authorities took several moves to prevent a spread of the disturbance, including the closing of all liquor stores, and the prohibition of the sale of beer anywhere in the city.

* * *

IN ADDITION TO THE NEGROES sent home from the shipyard, approximately 7,000 others were idle when Frank Jones, president of the Central Trades Council of Mobile (AFL), ordered all workers who were engaged on any construction jobs in the city as members of an AFL union to return to their homes.

Company spokesmen would not estimate the number of Negro workers sent home, but said that all in the yard had left. Other sources placed the number at "several thousand."

The company announced that eight men—seven Negroes and one white man—received first aid treatment, following the incident, which started about 9:30 a.m. The spokesman said there were no Negro welders on the day shift, but that there had been some on the night shift, and added that an investigation was under way to determine if this was the reason for the flare-up between the races.

The police chief said preliminary reports from his men indicated about 25 were involved in the fighting.

At Montgomery, Gov. Sparks issued the order closing all liquor stores not only in the city of Mobile, but in both Baldwin and Mobile Counties.

The governor also dispatched 25 state highway patrolmen to Mobile, and alerted three companies of State Guards stationed in Mobile and Baldwin Counties.

* * *

SOLDIERS FROM NEARBY BROOKLEY FIELD were sent to the plant when the disturbance was first reported.

Jones said his action in ordering all Negro members of AFL unions off all jobs in the city was for the purpose "of protecting our Negro members." The CIO is bargaining agency for the shipyard.

In addition to the governor's or-

CHARGE THREATS OF NEGROES QUIT SHIPYARDS; Chicago Tribune Illinois

The Story of a Race Riot: Women Joined Men In Clubbing and Stoning Negro Ship Workers

PM
New York, N. Y.

By VICTOR H. BERNSTEIN
Staff Correspondent

MOBILE, Ala., May 31. — The cause of last Tuesday's race riot at the Alabama Shipyards here, which employs 26,000 workers, was upgrading of 12 Negroes to jobs as welders. But the 12 Negroes were not in the yards when the violence broke out; they had worked peacefully and unmolested at their new jobs and gone home to sleep. So the actual victims of the riot—perhaps a score or more of Negro men and women who were beaten—were innocent bystanders in every sense, guiltless even of the sin of having been promoted in their jobs.

So much, at any rate, is clear. What is less clear is what actually happened during the hour or more, beginning about 9 a.m. on Tuesday, when bricks flew and iron bars in the hands of white men and women smashed against cringing bodies. I've talked to a dozen people, white and Negro, who were eyewitnesses or who had talked with eyewitnesses. The company insists that only 500 white workers were involved in the attack. Some of the Negroes say that the figure was closer to 5000.

Negroes Didn't Resist

There is no charge from anyone, however, that any Negro attacked a white, or even fought back. Two or three whites were hurt in the course of the rioting. They were attacked by other whites for having tried to protect the Negroes.

It is easy to understand why the Negroes cannot give a coherent picture of what happened. The yards are huge, perhaps a mile long. At least they could only see what was happening in and around the ship on which they happened to be working. Most of their energy, during the period of violence, was consumed in the simple act of running for life. I asked one of the Negro women, who had been cracked over the head, whether she ran fast. "I done passed lots of cullud people," she said with some pride. It isn't really funny, when you think about it.

The 12 new welders had reported for work for the first time on the 11 p.m. Monday shift. They left in normal fashion when their shift was up at 7 a.m. Tuesday. The day shift was at work for an hour or more before anything untoward occurred. Word got around then among the Negroes that someone was telling the whites that a Negro welder had killed a white woman the night before. No one knows who started that story. I don't think a single soul in Mobile today believes there's a word of truth in it, not even the white rioters. But for the moment, it was enough.

The Storm Gathers

There is evidence that on one ship, a white man started to harangue other white workers. He said at one point, "We gotta get every one of them Niggers off this island." I've been unable to find out what else he said, not even whether he recounted the murder fable. At any rate, about this time Negroes and a few whites began to pass the word among the colored workers that there was trouble afoot, and that they had better beat it.

Now there's a bottleneck in every shipways, which are built with one end toward the water. All workers on a ways must pass out the ways through the inland end. Most of the witnesses I spoke to said the whites, mostly young men and women, gathered at this inland end with bricks, clubs, iron bars and—as one Negro put it—"everything killable." The frightened Negroes had to run through this gauntlet to get out on the road leading to the ferry which would take them back to the city and safety.

Most of the injured were hurt there, at the exits to the ways. Others were attacked at various points by smaller gangs. White women workers, who have been doing a good job around the yards, also did a good job in upholding Southern tradition, sharing with their white comrades in the chase. One Negro told me, "I was hit in the chest by a white lady." He had not forgotten his politeness.

Whites Defend Negroes

The whites didn't charge the Negroes with anything. They just shouted imprecations and told them to get the hell outta here you black —."

One white man said, "No nigger is goin' to join iron in these yards." That was the closest reference to welders or welding that I could find in the evidence covering the period of the actual riot.

Here and there a white man stuck his neck out for the Negroes. One foreman, well-meaning but careless, locked a Negro in a closet for safety, but forgot to let him out. He was in the closest from 9 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. when an electrician, tracing some wires, unlocked the door in the course of his job. Another white man, a former Alabama U. football player, fought to protect a Negro and was smashed over the head and on the back with iron pipes.

Army Stops Riot

There is no evidence that company guards moved a finger to stop the rioting. The guards are members of the union which has a contract at the yards, the International Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, CIO. The people who stopped the fighting were the Army detachment sent down from Brookley Field which got there very quickly. The Negroes got off the ferry at the city end. The uninjured ran home and the great bulk of them have stayed home since. The company has said that only seven or eight were injured, but at least 11 were treated at the city hospital, and there is no means of knowing how many were treated by private physicians or how many didn't report anywhere for treatment.

Local Paper Concerned

That day and the following day, the whites streamed out of the yards. But neither they nor the Negroes have been granted permission to quit by the War Manpower Commission, although many particularly among the Negroes, asked for it. Dr. Burton Morley, head of the WMC here, told the whites there was no good ground for leaving their jobs and told them to go back to work. He reserved decision on the Negroes applications until Friday when he and representatives of other Government agencies, including the Fair Employment Practice Committee, together with the union and the company agreed on a plan which they believe will protect the Negroes' economic interests as well as their safety.

The question of blame for the outbreak is complex. Two white men have been arrested, one charged with inciting to riot and the other with assault. No details of the evidence against the men have yet been made public. For the last few days, there has been a great hue and cry for the workers to get back to work, and for the yards to produce tankers, but the demand for punishment of those guilty is by comparison a whisper.

The *Press Register*, local newspaper, is sincerely concerned with getting the men back to work. It also is sincerely concerned with squelching what it calls "exaggerated Hitler-inspired" reports of what happened. One of the stories told by a Negro eyewitness is that he saw a Negro man and woman knocked off into the river, and that he saw neither come to the surface. There is no certain way of checking this story. The obvious way—by finding out whether a man and a woman are missing—is not too sure a method with Negroes, who have learned to be hesitant about taking their troubles to the public.

The *Press Register*, aware of this and similar stories of fatalities, has posted a $1000 reward for proof that anyone died as a result of Tuesday's riots. There have been no takers so far.

The plan set up for solution of the problem is now in the hands of Washington officials for approval. It will be presented to the workers for final acceptance. Meanwhile, the CIO, whose membership is less than 4000 among the 26,000 yard workers is putting on the pressure to get the men back to work. Yesterday an all-Negro meeting was held in the city for the same purpose, and Negro ministers issued a joint statement "advising our people to stand ready to return to work." The statement closed:

"We further advise our people to pray that we all may have in us the spirit of the Christ, and that the day will soon come when all men will recognize God as our Father, Christ as their Redeemer, and Man as their brother."

Walkout Feared In Race Fight

MAY 28 1943

PM
New York, N. Y.

Special Correspondent

MOBILE, May 28.—A general walkout of white welders at the Pinto Island Shipyards threatened here as an aftermath of a disturbance between white and Negro workers in which seven Negroes were injured.

The United Press was told that members of the CIO welders' union had walked off the job in a protest against the return of Negroes to the shipyard.

Of several thousand Negroes who were sent home after Tuesday's outbreak, the United Press reported, very few returned before Wednesday night. An undetermined number reported for work yesterday.

In Atlanta, War Manpower Commission (WMC) officials said that some 1000 of the 7000 Negroes employed at Pinto Island had applied for release from their jobs. A spokesman said the Negroes would be permitted to transfer if they are not taken back on the same jobs.

"We cannot hamper the war effort by having trained Negro welders put to work at a sweeping job," said a WMC official. "There are not enough white or Negro workers in the Mobile area to man the yards without using workers of both races."

MAY 28 1943

MAY 31 1943

MAY 31 1943

MAY 31 1943

MAY 28 1943

JUN 3 1943

Birmingham, Ala.
Peace In Mobile

The regional director of the War Manpower Commission said in Atlanta that the disturbance between a few white and Negro workers at a Mobile shipyard had decidedly quieted down. As a result of prompt action by federal, state and local authorities, acting together, the situation was at once brought under control. Obviously this was a case where tension got the better of a few individuals. Authorities continue to emphasize the need for peaceful operation of the fed-yards. All persons are being assured ctingsafety in employment, and workers in oncethe Mobile area now, doubtless, generthisally understood that they have a se- their work done. This is the primary objective.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

News Quiet At Mobile

Conditions in Mobile, following last week's racial disturbance, are reported gradually returning to normal. JUN 3 1943

Dr. B. F. Ashe, regional manpower director, declares that arrangements in force have "given confidence to many workers, both white and Negro, to remain on the job and resume work without fear." He praised the prompt protective measures put into effect by federal, state and city authorities, working together. Birmingham, Ala.

It is deeply gratifying—and reassuring—that this most unfortunate outburst developed no further. It seems to have grown out of undisciplined impulses aggravated by rumors. It seems clear that basic conditions did not—and do not—warrant the extreme feeling that developed. We are all fortunate, then, that irresponsibility and violence were so quickly brought under control.

It is earnestly to be hoped that there will be no recurrence of this kind of trouble—in Mobile or anywhere else. This incident is a warning. It is a lesson. And, disturbing as it was in some aspects, in others it brought elements even of reassurance.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.
MAY 27 1943

THE AFFAIR IN MOBILE

After the excitement had died down it was found that a couple of dozen men had staged a rough house at a Mobile shipbuilding plant and that eight of them got some bruised heads. That is not a big enough incident to justify the publication all over the United States under sensational headlines that Mobile had been the scene of race riot. Nor was the affair apparently of enough seriousness to justify the summoning of armed forces from all directions, including Montgomery and Brookley Field. MAY 27 1943

Race friction is always potentially dangerous, but it is invariably encouraged by sensational stories and exaggerated reports of what has occurred. In spite of the frictions that arise from time to time, in Detroit, or Chicago, or New York as well as in the Southern states, there is better understanding between the Negro and the white races than there has ever been, and there is more tolerance of the rights and obligations of each toward the other. There are certain rules of conduct which each recognizes must be observed, and it is disregard of those rules by irresponsibles that cause even the minor disturbances. Those disturbances in every case are regrettable enough and bad enough in themselves and should not be enlarged and encouraged by distorted, excited and magnified reports of what has happened.

News Stern Lesson For All

Alabama and the nation should learn a serious lesson from the recent disturbances at the Alabama Dry Dock shipyard at Mobile.

The trouble seems settled now. The white and Negro workers are back at their jobs. Ships are being built. The war effort progresses. Birmingham, Ala.

But the real issues that brought about the disturbances have not been settled. True, the skilled Negro workers have been given special duties in hull construction at which they will work. White workers who said they would not work at the same jobs with Negroes, can no longer complain. JUN 6 1943

No Negroes were killed, as rumor would have it. Actually, only eight persons were injured. But for a time the situation was extremely serious for there were thousands of both white and colored employes in the giant shipyard.

Tempers flared, blows were struck. The violence that flamed up could have swept into a crowded Mobile where white and Negro workers are jammed, almost elbow to elbow.

But Mobile moved swiftly and efficiently to curb any spread of the violence. City and county governmental officials acted wisely, the federal government sent its troops into the yard, the governor sent state guardsmen into Mobile to patrol the streets.

Soon, cool heads had gotten management, organized labor (which has very few workers in the yard), the workers and the interested governmental agencies together.

A plan, approved by the governmental agencies sometime before, was put into force and submitted to Washington for approval. It called for segregation of skilled Negro workers.

Washington, which had called for the upgrading of skilled Negro workers and their use in the war effort, approved the plan and the white and Negro workers went back to their jobs.

But this was after violence had come. Tempers had flared. Bitterness had been born.

An educational plan, with management and government cooperating, would have probably avoided the hot tempers, the violence, the bitterness.

There is no question about the need for additional workers in the war effort . . . the shipyards, the mills, the factories.

There is no question of the skill of many Negro workers.

It is obvious that many white workers, long used to economic advantage, will object to the sudden placing of skilled Negroes beside them in shipyards, mills and factories.

A nation fighting for its life against a combination of regimented tyrannies, countries that force the full use of manpower, and sounding as its battle cry the Four Freedoms, will have to use all its manpower for victory.

But it will have to make judicious use of that manpower. It certainly can't ignore all at once its own traditions, outmoded or no, just or unjust.

Let the tempers at Mobile, the violence and the bitterness, serve as a stern and impressive lesson for management and government that education, mediation and compromise must be fitted into a total mobilization of skilled manpower. JUN 6 1943

Mobile Incident

The Daily Worker MAY 27 1943

THERE are profound implications in the so-called "race riot" at Mobile, Alabama last Tuesday. New York, N. Y.

The fact that skilled Negro workers were assigned to work with white workers in an Alabama shipyard is an indication of advances being made in the struggle against discrimination. MAY 27 1943

The Alabama incident occurred on the same day as passage of the anti-poll tax bill in the House, another great indication of progress in the struggle against the semi-feudal ruling circles of the South.

These circles are fighting desperately to retain their rotten, long-outdated feudal regime. In this fight they come into direct clash with the necessities of the war. Hence they have lined up with other defeatists in the nation. MAY 27 1943

The clash in the Mobile shipyards was not due to any hostility on the part of the mass of white workers. It was provoked by a handful of these defeatists who, in the words of the union regional director, are out to sabotage the war effort. It is part of the pattern of industrial strife built up by defeatists within the labor movement throughout the nation in an effort to halt the developing offensive against Hitler.

The atmosphere for this clash was created by the bitter struggle of the Dixon-Wilkinson "white supremacy" crowd against the nation's war policy as embodied in the President's Order barring discrimination in war industry.

The atmosphere was created by the last ditch fight of the poll taxers in Congress, desperate as they see signs of disintegration of their regime. MAY 27 1943

The Administration should be urged to enforce its policies in Mobile and to reconstitute the Fair Employment Practices Committee with full power to enforce its findings. Governor Sparks at Montgomery, Alabama, should be urged to protect the Negro workers in their right to work on all jobs. The poll tax, which gives the "white supremacy" enemies of the war effort their power, must be eliminated. MAY 27 1943

The Negro Freedom rally at Madison Square Garden on June 7 is a high point in the campaign for these basic war policies, and should receive the support of the entire labor movement.

Atlanta
May 25, 1943

Welders Clash At Mobile Yard

MOBILE, Ala., May 25.—(AP)—Soldiers, city, state and county police were called into a large shipyard here Tuesday to quell a disturbance which started, Police Chief D. E. McFadyen said, when Negro welders were assigned to work with white welders.

McFadyen said "several" of the Negroes were "beaten up," and that order was restored when all Negroes in the yard, operated by the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding corporation, were sent home.

Police authorities took several moves to prevent a spread of the disturbance, including the closing of all liquor stores, and the prohibition of the sale of beer anywhere in the city.

Union Members Stay Away

In addition to the negroes sent home from the shipyard, approximately 7,000 others were idle when Frank Jones, president of the Central Trades Council of Mobile (A. F. of L.), ordered all workers who were engaged on any construction jobs in the city as members of an A. F. of L. Union to return to their homes.

Company spokesmen would not estimate the number of Negro workers sent home, but said that all in the yard had left. Other sources placed the number at "several thousand."

The company announced that eleven men—10 Negroes and one white man—received first-aid treatment following the incident, which started about 9:30 a. m. The spokesman said there were no Negro welders on the day shift, but that there had been some on the night shift, and added that an investigation was under way to determine if this was the reason for the flare-up between the races.

25 Patrolmen Sent

Governor also dispatched 25 Highway patrolmen to Mobile, and alerted three companies of State Guards stationed in Mobile and Baldwin Counties.

Soldiers from nearby Brookley Field were sent to the plant when the disturbance was first reported in the city of Mobile, but in both Baldwin and Mobile Counties.

25 Involved in Clash

The police chief said that preliminary reports from his men indicated about 25 were involved in the fighting.

Mayor Charles A. Baumhauer said he would call out one company of State Guards late Tuesday to patrol the waterfront and the business district of the city.

Governor Chauncey Sparks issued the order at Montgomery.

While McFadyen said no disorder had been reported in other parts of the city, several moves were taken to guard against a closing all liquor stores (state owned)

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

ed, but there was no estimate of the number nor of the length of time they would be left there.

Jones said his action in ordering all Negro members of A. F. of L. Unions off all jobs in the city was for the purpose "of protecting our Negro members." The C. I. O. is bargaining agent in the shipyard.

In addition to the Governor's order closing all liquor stores, the Mayor ordered a stop to all sale of beer or other alcoholic beverages.

EIGHT ARE HURT IN MOBILE YARD RACIAL DISORDER

City Is Heavily Patrolled After Workers Clash; Guard On Alert

MOBILE, Ala., May 25—(AP)—Mobile was heavily patrolled Tuesday night following a shipyard racial disorder which resulted in upwards of 7,000 Negro workers being called from their jobs throughout the city.

Seven companies of State Guards were mobilized on orders of Gov. Chauncey Sparks in event of a spread of the disorder which resulted in eight men being injured at the Alabama Drydock & Shipbuilding Company.

The disturbance, Police Chief D. E. McFayden said, occurred when Negro welders were assigned to work on the same job with white welders. Police quelled the outbreak and the plant resumed operations after sending home all Negro employes.

Work Continuing

White workers on the 3:30 p.m. shift were on their jobs Tuesday afternoon, according to a statement by D. R. Dunlap, company president.

"Work is continuing in the yards and will continue without interruption," Dunlap's statement read. "Arrangements have been made to guard the yard with ample force and military personnel, if necessary. No further trouble is expected."

Brig. Gen. James A. Mollison, commanding general at the Mobile Air Depot here, announced late in the day that "an adequate number of United States troops have been moved into the shipyard to protect government property and to prevent interference with the war effort."

Gen. Mollison declined to say how many soldiers were on guard, but said they will remain in the shipyard until all threat of damage to government property is past.

Company spokesmen would not estimate the number of Negroes sent away, but Frank Jones, president of the Central Trades Council of Mobile, said he had ordered all Negro members of AFL unions throughout the city to leave their jobs as a protective move and said there were 7,000 of these. CIO unions are the recognized bargaining agents at the shipyard and private sources estimated the number of Negroes sent away at "several thousand."

CIO Aid Deplores Event

Meanwhile, Charles Hanson, regional director of the CIO Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, declared that the disturbance "was wholly unnecessary."

"We claim," he said in a statement, "that some agitators started it in an attempt to sabotage the war effort. It was a great day for Hitler and the Mikado."

Other precautions taken against a spread of the disorders, with city officials concentrating their efforts at the time the day shift left the plant, included the closing of all state-owned liquor stores in Mobile and Baldwin Counties on order of Gov. Sparks and the banning of beer and other alcoholic beverage sales in Mobile by Mayor Charles A. Baumhauer.

Soldiers Guard Plant

Gov. Sparks Tuesday night ordered out four additional companies of State Guards after mobilizing three companies at Mobile and Foley earlier. These additional companies, from Montgomery, Andalusia and Tuscaloosa, would bring the total of guardsmen on duty in the Mobile area to "300 or 400," Sparks said.

He said he had declined a suggestion that federal troops be used because he "considers it a police matter."

"It is the state's duty to protect life and property, and if we can't do it then we ought to provide sufficient forces with which to do so," the governor declared at Montgomery.

The Highway Patrol sent an additional 25 patrolmen to Mobile, bringing the total now on duty there to about 45. Col. Robert E. Joerge, Jr., acting state adjutant general, also left Montgomery for Mobile, and, in addition, the governor sent Finance Director Hayse Tucker and Highway Director G. R. Swift as his personal representatives, with "complete authority to act for me."

A small contingent of soldiers was sent from Brookley Field shortly after the disturbance to stand guard at the shipyard.

While Chief McFayden said he understood the disturbance started as a protes by white welders about having Negro welders assigned to work with them, the company said there were no Negro welders on the day shift but some had been assigned on the night shift. A company investigation was started to determine if this was the cause of the trouble.

Of the eight men injured, seven were Negroes. All were given first aid at the shipyard and injuries were not regarded as serious, company officials said. McFayden said about 25 men in all were involved in the disturbance.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Mobile Editor Fined For Contempt, Defies Judge

MOBILE—Despite his conviction here Saturday of contempt of court by Judge Tisdale J. Touart in inferior criminal court, Ralph B. Chandler, publisher of both the Mobile Register and Mobile Press stated emphatically that he would stand pat on the "freedom of the press" issue and continue to criticize local courts when occasion warranted it.

Chandler was fined $10 and sentenced to six hours in jail by Judge Touart for publishing an editorial criticizing the judge's action in a case involving disorder between Negro and white workers at the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding company yards at Pinto Island. Chandler was freed on $500 bond pending a review of the case June 28, before Probate Judge Norvelle R. Leigh Jr.

The Press and Register's blasting of the judge's decision came as a surprise to colored residents here, as the paper had in the past leaned towards a "hand-off" policy where the Negro was concerned.

An editorial in Saturday's Register was titled: "The Freedom of the Press Remains Unimpaired by a Sentence to Jail." It stated that it was the fundamental right of a newspaper to "criticize the official conduct and the official conduct of public servants," and said the Mobile papers would continue that policy "even at the risk of going to jail."

Releases White Workers

Following the May 25 disorder at the shipyards, a hearing before Judge Touart, involving two workers, started the controversy. One white worker, charged with threats to do bodily harm and inciting to riot, was released by the judge on a $2,000 peace bond and another white worker was freed for lack of evidence to prove assault with intent to murder.

Blasting Judge Touart's decision, Chandler's first editorial, which resulted in his being cited for contempt of court, asserted:

"These defendants either were guilty of something or they were not guilty. If they were guilty of violating the law, they should have been given jail sentences.

"If they had violated no law, they should not have been haled into court. Nor, in our opinion, should Judge Tisdale J. Touart have resorted to a peace bond as a toss-up between conviction and acquittal, as he did in the case of one defendant."

Rap "Appeasement" Plan

In an effort to bring order out of chaos at the big ship yards, Marvin Cox, regional director of the Office of War Information, made public a plan for segregating colored and white workers. This program, reportedly suggested by C. W. Hanson, CIO regional director and drafted by Burton R. Morley, WMC area director, attempts to permit some upgrading of Negro workers, while "appeasing" the whites.

Essence of the plan is that Negro labor will be used in all crafts pertaining to bare huli erection beginning on No. 4 ways, then extending through the other three ways of the aforesaid area as rapidly as the craftsmen can be obtained. This means Negroes can obtain jobs as shipfitters, welders, drillers and in a few other skilled trades, but will still be barred from highest-paid skills such as electrical workers, machine operators and pipe-fitters.

Mobile Racial Disorders Abate

Gadsden, Ala., Times
May 26, 1943

Troops On Guard As 10,000 Negro Workers Idle After Flare-Up

MOBILE, May 26.—(AP)—Federal and state troops stood guard today in this war-crowded seaport as insurance against any recurrence of racial disorders at a shipyard which brought slight injuries to at least eight persons and left an estimated 10,000 Negro workers idle in this area.

The clash between Negro and white workers yesterday at the Pinto Island yard of the Alabama Dry Dock & Shipbuilding Co., resulted from "false rumors" that Negro welders were to be added to white crews, D. R. Dunlap, company president, said.

Brig.-Gen. James A. Mollison, commanding general of the Mobile air depot, announced he had ordered an "adequate number of United States troops into the shipyard to protect government property and to prevent interference with the war effort."

Martial Law Asked

In Washington, Edgar G. Brown, director of the National Negro Council, said last night the council had requested President Roosevelt "in the name of 500,000 Negro soldiers and sailors fighting and dying for democracy and 13,000,000 Negro civilians on the home front" to declare martial law at the Mobile shipyard.

Brown said the council represented several Negro church organizations.

The soldiers stood guard as the overnight shift reported for work. Sheriff W. H. Holcombe said the shift entered without incident, but only nine Negroes reported for work. A company source estimated 3,000 Negroes were employed in the yards, divided among three shifts.

In addition to the unannounced number of federal troops at the yard, seven companies of state guardsmen were on duty. The business area was closely patrolled during the night by police and county deputies.

Sheriff Holcombe said there was no disorder and apparently no reluctance to comply with "keep moving" orders given would-be loiterers.

5,000 SHIPYARD WORKERS IDLE AFTER RACE RIOT

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

Negro Welder Assignment Results in Battle.

Mobile, Ala., May 25 [Special].—Guards patroled this tense city tonight after a racial outbreak at a large shipyard to which soldiers and police were called to quell fighting that flared when Negro welders were assigned to work alongside white men.

Twelve thousand Negro construction workers were made idle by the disturbance, 5,000 men being sent home from the shipyard and 7,000 from other jobs to avert further disturbance, which occurred this morning in the yard of the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding corporation.

Police also ordered all liquor stores closed and the sale of beer stopped thruout the city. Mayor Charles A. Baumhauer said he would call out a company of state guards to patrol the waterfront and the business district of the city.

A number of Negroes were arrested by city police for safe keeping and all other Negroes were ordered to work this morning. It was said the latter objected to the proximity of the Negroes.

A short time later Frank Jones, president of the AFL Central Trades Council of Mobile, ordered all Negro welders on the job in the city to leave their jobs as a protective move and said there were approximately 7,000 Negroes engaged on construction work on the night shift. He said

Three truck loads of soldiers from Brookley air field and every available Mobile policeman were rushed to the scene of the disturbance, on an island in the Mobile river.

Seven Negroes and one white man received first aid after the disturbance, on the proximity of the Negroes engaged

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BIRMINGHAM PLANE PLANT BARS NEGROES

Chicago, Ill. Defender

NAACP, Citizens Demand Jobs At $15,000,000 War Factory

BIRMINGHAM—(ANP)—Negro citizens of Birmingham prepared for an all-out battle against discriminatory hiring practices in war industries as the Bechtel-McCone Parsons Airplane corporation announced extensive training plans for prospective workers in its $15,000,000 modification plant now under construction adjacent to the municipal airport.

A delegation representing the Negro Citizens' Committee on Jobs and Training, reporting on an interview with Kenneth Hawkins, manager of industrial training, and G. S. Hammill, personnel director of the corporation, stated that the results of their discussions were "unsatisfactory in the extreme."

Headed by Wilbur H. Hollins, local president of the N.A.A.C.P., the delegation includes James E. Jackson, Jr., secretary, and Louis E. Burnham, organizational secretary of the Southern Negro Youth congress. Hollins reported that the corporation gave no evidence of the intention of training and hiring Negroes and that the citizens' committee has placed the matter before the regional office of the War Manpower commission in Atlanta and the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices.

On the same day of the interview, Hawkins and Hammill issued an announcement to the press indicating that 2,500 Birmingham men and women will be trained by March 15. Approximately 1,500 workers have been inducted into the training courses already—but not one Negro. The corporation, which has its headquarters in California, will eventually hire 17,000 people in the Birmingham plant, 60 per cent of them women who have had no previous industrial experience.

Trainees are to receive from [illegible] cents to 40 cents an hour [illegible] training. They are expected to work 48 hours a week for [illegible] four weeks to three [illegible]

pending on the skills in which they are being instructed. After training they are to be immediately placed on production jobs as aircraft welders, assemblers, armament mechanics, engine mechanics, radio mechanics, upholstery workers, instrument mechanics, sheet metal workers, and in many other capacities.

Hollins stated that in order to give the appearance of compliance with the provisions of Executive Order 8802 the corporation has been issuing applications to Negro jobseekers. "However," he declared, "these applications have been placed 'on ice' for to date not a single Negro has been assigned for training.

Dry Dock Company Is Blamed For Racial Clash At Mobile

Birmingham, Ala., News
June 13, 1943

Government's Labor-Race Policy Contributing Factor, Says State Acting Adjutant General

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—(AP)—Recent racial disorders at Mobile "can be laid at the door of the Alabama Dry Dock & Shipbuilding Company" and "the labor and race policy of the federal government was a contributing cause of this trouble," the acting state adjutant general said in a report released in part Saturday by Gov. Sparks.

Lt. Col. Robert E. Joerg, acting adjutant general, also said in his report "that the CIO either in whole or part does not intend to carry out their promise of no strikes during the duration . . ., and that the present leadership is unable to control its men."

The CIO International Union of Marine Shipbuilders of America is bargaining agent at the company's Pinto Island yards where at least eight persons were injured in racial disturbances in May.

Col. Joerg recommended to the governor that company officials "be informed that they must be responsible for the interior security of their plant and the discipline of their employes. That the next occurrences like this that the State Guard will move in, disarm their police and take over the work of corrections."

* * *

GOV. SPARKS HANDED THIS STATEMENT to newsmen, declining comment on any part of it:

Col. Joerg's report to the governor on the recent disturbance in Mobile contains the following:

About the State Guard he has this to say:

"Just after the 'ferry strike,' formal field orders with accompanying maps were issued fro mthis department covering a movement on Mobile, therefore unit commanders were familiar with tactical disposition of the troops. It is very doubtful if time had permitted if any better forces from the State Guard could have been assembled. Companies 53, 54 and 55 are recruited almost to maximum strength, and they had almost 100 per cent of their officers and enlisted strength to for duty. . . . Companies 30, 56 and 57 are also excellent State Guard organizations.

"One thing that was brought out in this disburbance was the lack of clothing for the men, as they did not have enough cotton uniforms to make a neat appearance at all times; however, this has been remedied by the procurement of additional clothing.

"The worst feature is the lack of armament for the guard. . . . The shotgun is a killing weapon, and does not have near the psychological effect on the crowd as does a rifle and a bayonet. It seems impossible to have the federal government issue enough arms to properly equip the State Guard. In case the entire guard was ordered out, there would be 680 men unarmed, or would have to furnish their own weapons.

* * *

IN THE STATE there has been issued for civilian defense use in this state 9,460 gas masks. The State Guard has none. It would be impossible for the guard to use anything but long range gas shells without masks.

"The undersigned does not doubt that the guard would do its duty. At the same time they should be well armed and protected."

Col. Joerg further concludes his report with the following suggestion:

"A. That the blame for this disturbance can be laid at the door of the management of the Alabama Dry Dock & Shipbuilding Compay; their lack of preparedness after experiencing the "ferry strike," the attitude that if anything happened George would do it; and their lack of means to offset vicious propaganda. That there will be continuous unrest at this plant until the above is remedied.

"B. That the labor and race policy of the federal government was a contributing cause of this trouble.

"C. That the CIO either in whole or part does not intend to carry out their promise of no strike for the duration (see exhibit VI), and that the present leadership is unable to control its membership.

"D. That while the State Guard can be depended upon in instances like this, their strength armament precludes their use in a situation of the first magnitude.

"VI. Recommendations: A. That the Alabama Dry Dock & Shipbuilding Company be informed that they must be responsible for the interior security of their plant and the discipline of their employes.

* * *

"B. THAT THEY ORGANIZE their plant force along military lines, train their police according to a prescribed schedule, and carry out guard duty as prescribed in Field Manual 26-5, U. S. A.

"C. That the Alabama Dry Dock & Shipbuilding Company be instructed to install a broadcasting system in their plant so that all employes can be easily acquainted with company detectives and policies.

"D. That Gen. James A. Mollison be thanked for his cooperation and assistance.

"E. That the Alabama delegation in Congress be requested to insist on the War Department (National Guard Bureau) propertly equipping the Alabama State Guard.

"F. That 1,000 rifles and bayonets with ammunition be purchased at once.

"G. That the director of civilian defense state of Alabama be instructed to issue the State Guard gas masks from the supply on hand."

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
November 24, 1943

Court Resumes Hearing On L&N Negro Case

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Nov. 24. (AP)—The Alabama Supreme Court resumed Wednesday a hearing of a charge that the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Co. and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen had discriminated against Negroes in granting promotions and seniority privileges.

The petitioner, Bester William Steele, a Negro fireman, seeks to enjoin the union and the railroad from continuing the alleged discrimination and asks also for $50,000 damages.

Counsel for Steele contended yesterday before the court that the brotherhood, through a work agreement with the company, had attempted to "drive Negroes entirely out of the service."

Tuscumbia, Ala., Reporter
November 11, 1943

Negro Fireman Desires Seniority

Takes Case To Supreme Court Alleging Conspiracy By Ry. Brotherhood

A claim by a negro railroad fireman that he had been denied seniority and promotion rights because of his race will be heard by the Alabama Supreme Court Nov. 23.

The fireman, Buster William Steele, employed on the Mobile-Decatur division of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, charges discrimination by the roalroad and by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen.

The case came to the Supreme Court on Steele's appeal from Jefferson County (Birmingham) Circuit Court, where a ruling against him was entered by Judge E. M. Creel last April 27. The railroad and union each denied the charges.

Steele, claiming seniority rights as a fireman since 1910, set out that he "brings this action in his own behalf and as a class suit on behalf of the other negro locomotive firemen on said defendant railroad, said other negro locomotive firemen constituting a class so numerous as to make it impracticable to bring them all before the court."

Steele claimed to have a work contract with the railroad providing seniority privileges on choice "runs" and promotion when a fireman was "competent and worthy." He said he had been wrongfully displaced" in his respect.

A "conspiracy" between the railroad and the Firemen's Brotherhood also is charged. Steele asserts that negroes are not permitted to join the union, which he adds, is exclusive bargaining agent with the railroad.

His petition, filed by Attorneys Arthur D. Shores, of Birmingham; Charles H. Houston, of Washington, D. C.; J. T. Settle, of Memphis, and J. C. Waddy, of Washington, says his work "has become irregular and hazardous" and his salary cut $50 monthly because of discrimination.

He asks damages of $50,000, "restoration of rights" for himself and other negro firemen, a permanent injunction against "any secret agreements or negotiations" between the railroad and union regarding promotion of firemen, discovery of all agreements between the railroad and union since 1934 and "relief from further discrimination."

Houston, Tex. Chronicle
December 11, 1943

NAACP Attorney Pleads Against Secret, Fraudulent Agreement of L. & N. R. R.

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (ANP)—When Charles H. Houston, of Washington, had argued a case before the Alabama Supreme Court, al-though he has been in oral arguments in behalf of Negro railroad firemen, he remarked that it was the first time in his 29 years of practice before the bench that a Negro had asked the court to enjoin a railroad and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen from enforcing a secret, fraudulent agreement" between the carrier and the union.

Houston also asked $50,000 damages for loss of wages, declaring that a Negro fireman, Lucien D. Gardner, had argued a case orally before the court, though written briefs have been submitted in previous cases by Arthur Shores, Birmingham attorney

Argues Case Before 'Bama Supreme Court

$50,000 Damages

Amsterdam Star-News
New York. N.

under the Railway Labor Act."

According to Steele, an employe on the railroad's Decatur-Montgomery division, as a result of collusion between the railroad and the union, he and other Negro firemen do not receive the promotional privileges which they merit.

Negro Fireman In High Court Over Seniority

Advertiser

Montgomery, Ala.

NOV 23 1943

Says Brotherhood And Railroad Conspire To Block His Promotion

A claim by a negro railroad fireman that he has been denied seniority and promotion rights because of his race will be heard by the Alabama Supreme Court Nov. 23.

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Negro Race Case Up In Court Today

Advertiser

NOV 23 1943

Color Discrimination By Railroad Charged

Montgomery, Ala.

A claim by a negro railroad fireman that he has been denied seniority and promotion rights solely because of his race will be heard today by the Alabama Supreme Court.

Attorneys for the negro, Buster William Steele, will offer oral arguments. The fireman has been employed on the Mobile-Decatur division of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad and claims seniority rights since 1910.

He charges discrimination by the railroad and by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen. The railroad and union denied the charges and a judgment against the negro was made in Jefferson County (Birmingham) Circuit Court last April. He asks damages of $50,000.

Steele's petition declares that he brings action "in his own behalf and as a class suit on behalf of the other negro locomotive firemen on said defendant." He also charges the railroad and union with conspiracy to "displace" negro firemen "right-ful promotion."

Alabama Supreme Court Hears Negro's First Oral Argument

Journal and Guide

Norfolk, Virginia

fore the Court claimed that the Brotherhood "has refused to represent the Negro firemen fairly and impartially, has been persistently disloyal and hostile to them.

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—(ANP)—When Charles H. Houston of Washington, D. C., asked the Alabama Supreme Court in oral arguments to put an end to the discrimination against Negro railroad firemen, Chief Justice Lucien D. Gardner remarked that it was the first time in his 29 years of service on the bench that a Negro had argued a case orally before the court.

Written briefs have been submitted in previous cases by Arthur Shores, Birmingham attorney. Houston, an attorney for Fireman B. W. Steele, asked the court to enjoin the Louisville and Nashville Railroad and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers from enforcing a enforcing a "secret, fraudulent agreement" between the carrier and the union. Houston also asked $50,000 damages against the brotherhood as "damages for loss of wages, destruction of vested seniority preference rights and breach of its duty under the Railway Labor Act."



Mr. Houston

STEELE'S CLAIM

According to Steele, an employee on the railroad's Decatur-Montgomery division, as a result of collusion between the railroad and the union, he and other Negro firemen do not receive the promotional privileges which they merit.

Steele's case, filed two years ago in the lower courts sought damages from the L. & N. R. R. and the Brotherhood for loss of time on his regular run.

It also sought damages for a period of total unemployment forced by a ruling of the Brotherhood curtailing seniority rights and further restricting assignments of "non-promotable" firemen (Negroes).

Steele, who now has been assigned to a "preferred run," has continued to fight the case in the interests of other Negro firemen who are rapidly being displaced.

Houston, in his argument be-

35c-1943
Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Despite FEPC, Low Ratings For Race Continue

By REV. H. E. CARTER

JAN 4 - 1943

MOBILE, Ala.—(ANP)—Unfortunately in the Mobile area, Negro labor is not being utilized where it can be the greatest asset to American's war effort. This rule applies wherever war work is being done, including Brookley field the army air port.

At the Alabama ship yards, Negroes are not even promised to be up-graded. There are a few helpers in some shops. They are men who have been there some years, before war work began, and in order not to demote them, they are retained as helpers. In almost very case of this kind the Negro is not a helper in fact but in name and pay only; and actually he is the blacksmith or tinner as the case may be. In these particular shops, (blacksmith and tinner) there are men with 25 or 30 years experience. From these men the heads of the heads of the shops seek and get information regarding the work to be done.

Fifteen years ago, Negroes did work as pipefitters. Today Negroes are not used, even as pipefitters' helpers. In the electrical department, no Negro helpers are used.

NEGRO ELECTRICIANS

There is one licensed Negro electrician in Mobile; and there are five others who are qualified as such. The matter of their being employed in war industries in Mobile is out of the question. They are not even considered for employment as such. In this case, as in many other the labor union is responsible for the Negro being shut out.

There is one "test case" of a Negro whose application has been on file in electricians' union for quite a few years. So far as he knows no action has ever been taken. The only licensed Negro electrician in Mobile has qualified, by civil service examination, to become an instructor in electricity at the United States Navy Yard, Mare Island Cal. He also has very lucrative offers from Puget Sound, Bremerton, Washington, and Chanute field.

JAN 4 - 1943

In the boiler makers' department no Negro helpers are used. Men of years of experience are working as laborers.

In the machine shop there are four Negroes whose experience average 20 years who can do any type of work in their line. Other Negroes, along with them, who have been there for several years remain there as helpers and laborers, having absolutely no chance for promotion or up-grading. Other men who have come in recently, having a few short weeks of experience, are promoted or up-graded all around and over these well trained and experienced Negroes. This applies in all shops where Negroes are employed.

There are no Negroes employed as shi-carpenters. Only a few Negroes are used in this work, some of whom could easily qualify as carpenters. In caulking and rivoting the Negroes are employed as laborers with no chance for up-grading.

PAINTERS

Negro painters are hired as dockmen at 80 cents per hour, and assigned to painters' jobs even spray-gun painters. The regular painters scale is $1.20 per hour. Other painters on the same job, painting behind those Negroes are getting the regular painters' scale.

ALABAMA

TRAINING WITH-IN INDUSTRY

In spite of the elaborate T.W.I. setup, Negroes are systematically and consistently excluded. At least 500 women are being trained as welders, sheet-metal workers, burners and lay-out crews, but no Negroes. These trainees are paid a small wage while in training. There are at least 70 trained welders in Mobile; men who were trained at the expense of the federal government. These men have applied at the shipyards for employment as welders but have been either hired as laborers or left unemployed. This, in spite of the fact that sometime ago there was a statement published to the effect that there were no more male welders available. Therefore the shipyards had to resort to training women welders.

BROOKLEY FIELD

JAN 4 - 19

There is as much discrimination at Brookley field, the army air port, as can be found anywhere else in the area. There Negroes are employed as classified labors and assigned to skilled labor, jobs with classified labor pay. This is especially applicable in the packing department. Negro applicants are not admitted to the examination for storekeepers. There are instances where Negroes were sent, y their foreman, to certain places to work and the subforeman refused to accept them, saying they could not work with him or that he would not have them. In every instance of this kind, the foreman had acquiesced to common labor. Others would not accept the comprise. Several girls who qualified as typists by civil service examination two rating very highly were turned away with the statement. We have no place for colored typist."

The expressed desire of the general supervisor of depot supply is to keep Negroes out of Jobs where the pay is above $1500 per year.

Carpenters

JAN 4 - 19

There are about 200 Negro carpenters in Mobile. On jobs where they are employed, they do not work on the same building with White carpenters approximately 3,000 carpenters are working on various jobs that are financed by the federal government, but less than 100 colored are employed.

Brick Masons

Negro brick-masons work harmonously along with white brick masons; not only on the same job but on the same building, the same wall. They are together in the same local union. Their business manager is fair and sees that no discrimination is practiced on any job where brick-masons are employed. White and colored plasterers and cement finishers are not only in the same local union, but have a colored business manager. They all work together, thus destroying the idea that white craftsmen will not work with Negro craftsmen.

Ingham, Ala., Age-Herald
January 6, 1943

Our Labor Surplus

The War Manpower Commission has issued a list of 85 industrial areas classified as having a "labor surplus." Birmingham is one.

Now, to be quite accurate, it should be pointed out that the War Manpower Commission is looking quite statistically at Birmingham with respect to available manpower. The WMC considers a man capable of working, or of being trained to work, as a unit that should be brought into the war effort.

So, the actual fact is that the WMC considers Birmingham a labor surplus area, for one reason, because we have a large supply of Negro workers who are not now doing vital jobs.

We have excellent Negro manpower here in this area literally wasting time—the time of Negroes individually and the time of the United Nations.

When young Negro men, for instance, capable of assimilating training and of holding war jobs that would help produce ships, guns, tanks or other war materials, continue to have little or no opportunity in that direction, then there is obviously a failure to utilize manpower to the fullest degree possible.

A number of Negro men have been trained in this area and elsewhere in this state. Despite much effort, the great majority of them have been unable to find either direct or supplementary war work.

Every person who has a son or husband, of any relative, in the Army or Navy, facing the enemy or preparing to face the enemy, should understand that this wasted manpower directly affects the efficiency of our fighting forces and may greatly influence the length of time required to defeat our enemies.

Southerners "P.M. Party" Hit Prejudice

N. Y. N. JAN 8 - 1943

Special Correspondence

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Jan. 8.—Six hundred miners from the red ore fields in nearby Bessemer came up with $516.92 today to challenge the recent complaint of Gessner T. McCorvey, titular head of the Democratic party in Alabama, that Alabamans wouldn't "fork up" with party funds until the President, Mrs. Roosevelt, and the Administration changed their sympathetic attitude toward the Negro.

JAN 8 - 1943

The money, collected in small donations from members of the Bessemer Red Ore Council of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union, CIO, was sent by the council to the Democratic National Committee through Sen. Hill (D., Ala.), with a letter pledging more to come.

"This first sum," explained Howard Mooney, council president, "is a token of what the people of Alabama, the rank-and-file Democrats of the State, are ready to contribute in money, effort, and devotion in support of President Roosevelt and his war policies of Victory."

JAN 8 - 1943

The letter, signed by all the contributors, attacked Gov. Frank M. Dixon, Reps. Sam Hobbs and Joe Starnes and other State Democratic bosses for threatening to 'secede' from the national Democratic Party.

McCorvey, in a message to the Democratic National Committee last November, had voiced State Democratic leaders' resentment of the anti-poll tax drive and of New Deal attempts to eliminate anti-Negro job discrimination in the South.

35c-1943

ORDER RESTORED IN MOBILE YARDS

Age-Herald

WMC Director Says Race And Labor Disputes Have Quieted

Birmingham, Ala.

ATLANTA, June 1—(AP)—Regional War Manpower Commission Director B. F. Ashe said Tuesday that the situation resulting from the recent race and labor disturbance at Alabama Drydock & Shipbuilding Company, at Mobile, Ala., "has decidedly quieted down due to the prompt intervention and adequate protection given to persons and property by federal, state and city authorities acting together."

JUN 3 1943

"There have been no further outbreaks of violence . . .," Dr. Ashe said, adding that "the arrangements in force have given confidence to many workers, both white and Negro, to remain on the job and to resume work without fear.

"While there is no doubt that production was seriously interfered with," he continued, "it was never completely halted and is now gradually returning to normal.

"The essential thing is that no further disorders should mar the arrangements for resuming work . . .," he declared.

The regional director asserted that the public should understand that the troubles at the . . . company, which is a huge concern employing in the neighborhood of 30,000 people, have not been a simple dispute about wages or hours between the workers and the company.

"The situation is more complex than that. Federal anti-discrimination laws, union requirements, local customs and conditions or work, decisions made by the personnel management of the yard itself, and the national policies of several government agencies such as the Maritime Commission and the War Manpower Commission, all have to be considered and realistically adjusted to meet the actual conditions of producing ships at Mobile.

"The present basis of agreement that separate ship ways should be maintained for colored workers, thus enabling them to participate at all grades of skills employed on the hulls of ships, seems to solve at one and the same time both the difficulty of upgrading Negro workers adequately and that of providing them with adequate protection while at work in designated ways apart from the whites."

Troops Guard Mobile Yards

Atlanta Constitution

MOBILE, Ala., May 26.—(AP)—Federal and state troops stood guard Wednesday in this war-crowded seaport as insurance against any recurrence of racial disorders at a shipyard which brought slight injuries to at least eight persons and left an estimated 10,000 Negro workers idle in this area.

May 26, 1943

The clash between Negro and white workers Tuesday at the Pinto Island yard of the Alabama Dry Dock & Shipbuilding Co. resulted from "false rumors" that Negro welders were to be added to white crews, D. R. Dunlap, company president, said.

Brig. General James A. Mollison, commanding general of the Mobile Air Depot, announced he had ordered an "adequate number of United States troops into the shipyard to protect Government property and to prevent interference with the war effort."

In Washington Edgar G. Brown, director of the National Negro Council, said Tuesday night the council had requested President Roosevelt "in the name of 500,000 Negro soldiers and sailors fighting and dying for democracy and 13,000,000 Negro civilians on the home front," to declare martial law at the Mobile shipyard.

Brown said the council represented several Negro church organizations.

The soldiers stood guard as the overnight shift reported for work. Sheriff W. H. Holcombe said the shift entered without incident, but only nine Negroes reported for work. A company source estimated 3,000 Negroes were employed in the yards, divided among three shifts.

In addition to the unannounced number of federal troops at the yard, seven companies of State Guardsmen were on duty. The business area was closely patrolled during the night by police and county deputies.

Sheriff Holcombe said there was no disorder and apparently no reluctance to comply with "keep moving" orders given would-be loiterers.

Plan Formulated For Mobile Workers

Atlanta Constitution

June 5, 1943

WASHINGTON, June 5.—(AP)—The President's Fair Employment Practice Committee, in an effort to settle "difficulties" between white and Negro workers at the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding Company, Mobile, has formulated a plan through which a limited number of ways will be set aside for Negroes at which they will be allowed to do certain skilled work.

The arrangement, announced Friday by Monsignor Francis E. Haas, committee chairman, was decided on at a conference of union, company, War Manpower Commission and committee officials. It upgrades Negroes to all skills necessary for bare hull construction on way 1 through 4 at the Mobile yards. They will not work on interiors or superstructures.

Negro Workers Are Protected

Montgomery, Ala., Advertiser

June 5, 1943

Mobile Trouble Brings Concession To Permit Skilled Activity

WASHINGTON, June 4.—(AP)—To settle "difficulties" between white and negro workers at the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding Company, Mobile, Ala., Monsignor Francis E. Haas, chairman of the President's fair employment practice committee, announced today a system whereby negroes will be allowed to certain skilled work on a limited number of ways set aside specially for them.

The arrangement, which was drawn up at a conference of union, company, War Manpower Commission and committee officials, upgrades negro workers to all skills necessary for bare hull construction on ways one through four at the yards.

Bare hull construction, the committee explained, is the building of the actual outer hull of the ship, and negroes will not work on interiors or superstructures.

Chairman Haas added that all steps necessary will be taken by the War Department to maintain order and the production of ships at the yard.

At the conference, he said, representatives of the various groups were:

David R. Dunlap, J. M. Griser and W. T. Daly for the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding Company; Charles Hanson, J. L. Bouche and Elijah Jackson for the International Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, CIO; E. J. Trimble and Clarence Mitchell for the committee, and Burton P. Morley for the War Manpower Commission.

The arrangement has been approved by the chairman of the Maritime Commission, the assistant secretary of the Navy, the chairman of the WMC and himself, Monsignor Haas said.

EIGHT ARE HURT IN MOBILE YARD RACIAL DISORDER

Age-Herald MAY 26 1943

City Is Heavily Patrolled After Workers Clash; Guard On Alert

Birmingham, Ala.

MOBILE, Ala., May 25—(AP)—Mobile was heavily patrolled Tuesday night following a shipyard racial disorder which resulted in upwards of 7,000 Negro workers being called from their jobs throughout the city.

Seven companies of State Guards were mobilized on orders of Gov. Chauncey Sparks in event of a spread of the disorder which resulted in eight men being injured at the Alabama Drydock & Shipbuilding Company.

The disturbance, Police Chief D. E. McFayden said, occurred when Negro welders were assigned to work on the same job with white welders. Police quelled the outbreak and the plant resumed operations after sending home all Negro employes.

MAY 26 1943

Company spokesmen would not estimate the number of Negroes sent away, but Frank Jones, president of the Central Trades Council of Mobile, said he had ordered all Negro members of AFL unions throughout the city to leave their jobs as a protective move and said there were 7,000 of these. CIO unions are the recognized bargaining agents at the shipyard and private sources estimated the number of Negroes sent away at "several thousand."

CIO Aid Deplores Event

Meanwhile, Charles Hanson, regional director of the CIO Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, declared that the disturbance "was wholly unnecessary."

Negro Workers Urged To Return To Work At Mobile Shipyards

News MAY 1 5 1943

Many Petitioning WMC For Release To Change To Other Employment

Birmingham, Ala.

MOBILE, Ala.—(AP)—Efforts were continued here Thursday to encourage Negro workers, many of whom have already petitioned the War Manpower Commission for release from their jobs, to return to the shipyards which they left Tuesday following outbreak of racial disorders.

Only an estimated 200 Negroes of the approximately 8,000 normally at work in the yards returned Wednesday, a company spokesman said.

Meanwhile state, federal and local officers continued on duty in the area, patrolling the streets and standing guard at Alabama Dry-Dock & Shipbuilding, where the riot in which eight men were slightly injured broke out Tuesday morning.

MAY 1 5 1943

Negro workers joined with company and city officials in urging other Negroes to return to their jobs at a mass-meeting here Wednesday. Two of the workers, both employes of Alabama Drydock & Shipbuilding Company for a number of years, told the crowd they had gone back to work on the morning shift "and found everything calm."

MAY 1 5 1943

D. R. Dunlap, company president, declared the racial disorders were the result of false rumors that Negro welding crews were to be put on duty alongside white crews. He said Negro crews went into the yard Monday night but no white welders were working at the time.

Two men, one white and one Negro, were arrested near the entrance of the shipyard Wednesday for violating orders "to keep moving" which were invoked when the disturbances began. Both were fined in City Police Court Wednesday, Chief of Police Dudley McFadyen said, reporting that otherwise the day was "almost without incident."

MAY 1 5 1943

Dr. Burton R. Morley, area director for the War Manpower Commission, said he was treating the numerous applications from Negroes for release from their war-frozen jobs "just as we would have last week." These applications, he added must have the approval of the employer unless the worker is willing to go through the regular appeal processes.

Conference Is Called In Mobile To Discuss Recent Race Disorder

Birmingham, Ala., News

Shipyards Now Operating But Officials Say Situation Still Somewhat Confused

May 28, 1943

MOBILE, Ala.—(AP)—Union, company and Maritime Commission representatives planned a conference here Friday to discuss troubles that followed racial disorders at the huge Pinto Island shipyard of the Alabama Dry Dock & Shipbuilding Company Tuesday. Eight persons were injured slightly.

D. R. Dunlap, company president, said the plant was operating with a majority of the workers on the job, but that the situation was "still confused."

He said a number of Negroes reported to work on Thursday's shift after being sent home Tuesday following the disorders. At the same time a number of white workers left their jobs.

No official numbers were dis-

Shipyard at Mobile Near Normal Again

Atlanta Constitution

MOBILE, Ala., May 31, 1943—(AP)—

ample protection is offered so
he feels the Negro workmen
be safe, the referral requests
workers applying for referral
ds.
Meanwhile armed U. S. troops
will not be granted, Dr. Morley
said. If protection is not ample, he
continued to guard the shipyard continued, the WMC would have no
seven companies of State other course than to accede to their
ards remained in Mobile for any wishes to transfer to other jobs.
sible disorders.
r. Burton R. Morley, War Man-
ver Commission area director,
representative.
eanwhile, armed U. S. troops
continued to guard the shipyard
seven companies of State
ards remained in Mobile for any

full white crews and practically all Negroes employed on day shifts at the Alabama Dry Dock & Shipbuilding Company's Pinto Island yard returned to work Monday in an apparent end to last week's racial disturbance at the yard, company officials announced.

City Police Chief Dudley MacFayden said a check showed 2,100 of a normal day crew of 2,229 Negroes reported for work. The back-to-work movement followed meetings of Negroes yesterday when union officials appealed to their patriotism and promised ample protection in urging them to resume their jobs at the big shipyard.

Troops remained on guard at the yard, but Colonel Robert Joerg, acting state adjutant general, said no further violence is expected.

Alabama Governor Hits U.S. In Riot

JUN 1943

By L. P. BUCKSELL

(Defender Staff Correspondent)

MOBILE, Ala. — An effort to whitewash southern racial prejudices from blame in the recent shipyard disorders here was made by Governor Chauncey Sparks this week.

The governor, a staunch believer in racial segregation, leveled charges of complicity in the riot upon the Federal government's ballot and race policy. Also blamed for the recent violence were both the company, the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding company, and the CIO union in the shipyards.

News

Birmingham, Ala.

Mobile Editor Must Face Contempt Charge In Race Riot Case

MOBILE, Ala.—Because an editorial in The Mobile Press-Register Monday criticized action of Judge T. J. Touart in the case of a man arrested during recent Mobile racial disorders R. B. Chandler, publisher of The Press, will appear before the judge at 10 a.m., Friday to show cause why he "should not be committed for contempt."

The citation was served personally by Sheriff JUN 10 1943 Holloway in Chandler's office Tuesday, after the publisher had declined Touart's demand that a retraction and apology for the editorial be printed.

The case involved threat charges made against G. T. Willingham, who was placed under a $2,000 peace bond by Judge Touart. Willingham was charged with threatening workers in the yard.

In refusing to retract his editorial, Chandler termed it "necessary for the public welfare."

Troops Leave Scene Of Mobile Riot

Courier-Journal

Louisville, Ky.

MOBILE, Ala., June 17—All troops have been withdrawn from the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding corporation's Pinto island yard where at least eight men were injured in a race disturbance last week, Lt. Robert P. Baulieu, public relations officer at Brookley field, announced this week.

Four companies of state guards remained on duty here but citizens have reason to believe that they will soon be released. Three other companies sent here by Gov. Chauncey Sparks were released over the weekend.

JUN 20 1943

Workers returned to their normal duties Monday, and Washington approved a plan designed to end the differences. The plan was drawn up by representatives of all parties concerned.

Mobile Yards Being Probed

Advertiser 29 1943

President's Envoys Are Investigating Pinto Yards Trouble

Montgomery, Ala.

MOBILE, ALA., May 28.—(AP)—Two representatives of the President's committee on fair labor practices arrived in Mobile today to investigate the situation at the huge Pinto Island shipyard of the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding Company where eight persons were injured Tuesday during a racial disturbance.

Charles Hanson, regional director of the Industrial Union of Marine Shipbuilders of America (C. I. O.) said he had requested a sabotage probe and had evidence which he would submit to the two representatives.

Meanwhile, company union and Maritime Commission representatives continued to confer today on problems relating to the disorders. Indications were that the conference was not yet concluded and that no statement would be made until the meeting was finally ended.

Today's meeting followed a three-hour session last night, at the conclusion of which conferees said only that the disturbances were believed caused by "well-organized rumors."

MAY 29 1943

Representing the company at the conferences are: D. R. Dunlap, president; J. M. Griser, vice-president, and William T. Daly, industrial relations manager. Union representatives include Hanson, John Bouche and Elija Jackson, Negro International C. I. O. representative.

White Labor At Ship Plant Not Satisfied

Advertiser 2 1943

New Complications Are Blocking Work At Mobile Yards

Montgomery, Ala.

MOBILE, ALA., May 27.—(AP)—Walkouts by white workers today brought additional complications to the labor situation at the huge Pinto Island shipyard of the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company.

D. P. Dunlap, company president, said the plant was in operation with a majority of the workers at their tasks, but that the situation was "still confused." He declined to estimate the number of white workers who left the plant today when a "substantial number" of negroes reported for work.

MAY 28 1943

Negroes had been idle since Tuesday morning when eight persons were injured in a series of racial disorders.

Dunlap said "there is plenty of protection" at the plant, which has been under guard of U. S. troops since Tuesday. In addition, seven companies of Alabama State guardsmen are on duty here, and approximately 50 State highway patrolmen are available.

Dunlap said he could give no reason for today's walkout. Charles Hanson, regional director of the Industrial Union of Marine Shipbuilders of America (CIO), said the work stoppage "in no way involves the union."

Disorders at the shipyard began Tuesday after negro welders were sent into the yard Monday night. Dunlap said the welders worked at a time when there were no white welders in the yard, and had been upgraded in accordance with President Roosevelt's executive order No. 8802, which prohibits discrimination against any worker because of his race.

MAY 28 1943

Dunlap blamed the Tuesday disorders on "false rumors" that negro welders had been sent into the yard to work with white crews.

Hanson, in the name of his union, proposed to the company today that a joint conference be held by company officials, union representatives, the War Manpower Commission, the Army, Navy and newspapers "to attempt a solution."

Hanson, in an earlier statement, said the "deplorable condition of last Tuesday resulted from acts on which the union was not consulted."

He urged "all patriotic shipyard workers to return to their jobs immediately to keep the ships sliding down the ways."

Ala. Shipyard Bans Papers Discussing Its Race Riot

MOBILE, Ala. — Seeking to prevent workers from reading any publication other than that edited by the company, B. C. Kneer, manager of the shipbuilding department of the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding Company, sent out an order, which stated:

JUN 12 1943

"This is to advise that anyone, regardless of rating, found reading any newspaper or other periodical, with the exception of Fore and Aft, whether he is on the shift or off, is subject to discharge. You are paid by the United States to bend every effort to win the war, and there is no excuse whatever for defrauding the government in this manner."

For The Good Of All

The racial disturbance Tuesday at the Alabama Drydock & Shipbuilding Company's shipyard at Mobile fortunately did not assume great proportions. In itself it was not so serious. But its potentialities were such as to give deep concern and to call for swift and firm precautionary measures. And it was another sobering sign of prevailing tension.

The first news was enough to send a shudder of apprehension among all white and colored Americans aware that the maintenance of order and the exercise of mutual restraint, forbearance and thoughtfulness are the first consideration.

May 27, 1943

Responsible citizens, white and colored, will do their utmost, in word and action, to help in protecting all of us —and our country—from the terrors that might so easily grow out of hot-headed loss of self-control.

This spirit seems to have been dominant among Mobile officials, state authorities and the people of the congested war community. The reassuring result, so far, at least, has been to prevent any renewal of the outbreak of disorder.

It is most earnestly to be hoped that this spirit and whatever measures of restraint are necessary will be maintained.

Birmingham, Ala. Age-Herald

It would be foolish to deny that there are great dangers in the existing tension, not only in Mobile but in many other places.

The first requisite in dealing with those potentialities is to face them.

In facing them, the most important thing, in our opinion, is that they be not overestimated or aggravated or incited by thoughtlessness, carelessness or recklessness.

Grave and far-reaching disorders of this kind can develop from heedlessness, from momentary loss of temper, from rumors, from careless language. No one would intelligently contend that the immediate cause of incitement in troubles of this kind ever justified the horrors that follow. Realization of that fact, which we believe is widespread, and constant emphasis on it, are a major protection against incidents of this kind.

The drydock company president attributes the clash between white and Negro workers to "false rumors" that Negro welders were to be added to white crews. This illustrates the necessity for the most discriminating behavior on the part of all.

To start trouble of this kind on the basis of a rumor is foolhardy and reprehensible in extreme degree. Even when there are actual grievances, violence is no way of seeking their alleviation. Nothing can be gained that way. All will lose.

It would be most unwise, obviously, to attempt to force any group of workers to work together, regardless of color, if there were dangerous animosity and tension among them.

But the right of all citizens to work in peace and safety must be protected. That is fundamental in human justice.

Moreover, it is an urgent necessity in behalf of our common country in its time of great danger and need.

Shipyard Welders Quit Work When Negroes Are Hired

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

MAY 27 1943

Mobile, Ala.—Soldiers and police were called into a large shipyard here Tuesday to quell a disturbance which started, Police Chief D. E. McFayden said, when Negro welders were assigned to work with white welders.

McFayden said "several" Negroes were "beaten up" and that order was restored when all Negroes in the yard, operated by the Alabama Dry-dock and Shipbuilding Corp., were sent home.

Other sources put the number of Negro workers involved in the fighting at "several thousand." The company said eight men—seven engaged on construction and one white man—received first aid treatment following the incident. Police said preliminary reports indicated about 25 men were

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

35c-1943

Alaska

Alcan Worker Gives Up; Too Tough for 'Darkies'

New York, N. Y.

Peoples Voice

Special

To Alfred Brodie, 244 W. 112 st, the construction of the Alcan highway offered an opportunity for him [illegible] his part to speed victory against fascism. That was the reason he signed a nine-month contract with Bechtel, Price and Callahan, constructors, last summer to go to Alaska as a commissary worker. He came home last week discouraged. Hardly had he left New York, he told *PV*, before he was called a "darky" by a company representative and early this month, he was forced to resign for protesting discriminatory tactics practiced by the company and its representatives.

"Speedy victory against Hitler is still the thing uppermost in my mind," he said, "but that final victory we all want will be slow in coming as long as one-tenth of our population is separated from the rest of our country by dixie psychology now being practiced in war industries and government projects. Something must be done to bring this condition to the attention of the American people."

It is precisely for this reason that Brodie took his story to Hope Stevens, attorney, 209 W. 125 st, and the Negro Labor Victory Committee, who plan to lodge a protest against the company, whose home office is in California, with the FEPC, the War Manpower Commission and the US Employment Service.

Brodie, who was hired by the company as a waiter at $225 a month, left New York for Alaska with a group of 50 or 60 white workers last August 20. Everything went smoothly, he said, until they reached Edmonton, where he was called away from the group by a company representative who told him he would not be allowed to proceed with the group because "no darkies are allowed to go to the company's camp in Alaska. Different arrangements will have to be made for Negroes. I guess we'll have to board them in private homes."

The group went [illegible] Brodie waited [illegible] Edmonton for an assignment. Finally he was sent to Fort Smith in the Northwest Territory. He had done a lot of thinking since he left Edmonton and had decided that at some time or other, everyone has to take it on the chin in this struggle for democracy. So he rolled up his sleeves and went to work.

He had hardly reached Ft. Smith, however, before the white chef called him aside and told him if he wanted to keep his job, he expected Brodie to give him his whiskey allotment each month. (The Canadian government allows each adult a fifth of whiskey and 24 bottles of beer a month). Brodie immediately asked for a transfer and was sent back to Edmonton.

When he related his story to the company's representative, he was told: "You won't be able to work anywhere else because we only have darkies in two camps. We need commissary help in Fairbanks and Whitehorse, but darkies can't work there."

Brodie then asked the War Manpower Commission for a release from the job and learned the only way this could be accomplished was for him to quit, which would make him ineligible for another job vital to the war effort, or be discharged.

Citizens Protest Jim-Crow

USES Refused to Send Negroes to Fill Skilled Jobs

MAR 19 1943

LITTLE ROCK.—(ANP)— In a letter to Dr. Ira De A. Reid, consultant to the director of the Bureau of Employment Security in Washington, protest was made by Local 276 of the AFL Carpenters and Joiners Union against discriminatory practices used by the United States Employment Service office here which were in conflict with the written policy of the Bureau of Employment Security and the President's Executive order No. 8802 which states that there shall be no discrimination in the referral and placement of workers because of race, creed, or color.

MAR 19 1943

The letter particularly concerned employment with the Kaiser shipyards in Richmond and Oakland, Cal., which advertised for skilled workmen. Representatives in the local USES advised Negro workers that they were not being referred to these jobs because of the lack of housing facilities.

However, a statement which appeared in an Arkansas paper from the FEPC contradicted this fact and stated: "This committee is advised that there is no housing problem which should prevent the referral of qualified persons of any race to work with the Kaiser Shipyards in Richmond and Oakland, Cal."

MAR 19 1943

Skilled Negroes in Little Rock claim that they are not being referred to jobs for which they are qualified but for work as common laborers.

MAR 19 1943

Another complaint against USES had to do with its discriminatory practices against Negroes on NYA. It is said that practically all white youth referred to the NYA defense training schools and war jobs are from USES.

In the case of Negro youth, 98 per cent of them are directed to the training schools by social and civic organizations and through a special Negro NYA personnel officer, not through the USES.

The Negroes in Arkansas strenuously protest these undemocratic practices.

MAR 19 1943

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FEPC Probes Jim Crow At Kaiser Yard

Philadelphia Tribune

Philadelphia, Pa.

Immediate return to work of the colored workers in West Coast shipyards who had been dismissed for refusal to pay their dues into an auxiliary union local of the Boilermakers union is being sought by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice (FEPC) as a preliminary move to adjustment of the entire situation, it was announced today by the committee.

As a result of investigation and a conference held in San Francisco on August 20-21, the positons of all parties involved in the dispute have been clarified, the committee reported.

At present attempts are being made to have worked out between management and the union a procedure through which the dismissed workers may be put back on their jobs at once pending ultimate settlement of the entire dispute.

According to the announcement, the discharge of the workers is explained by the management as being in accord with its contract to discharge any and all workers, regardless of race, creed or color, who do not remain in good standing with the union. The fact that the workers in question are colored, the management insist, has no bearing in the matter.

Queried on its position in the case, the union is quoted as insisting that the auxiliary local which has been set up meets all requirements and therefore, dismissal of any workers who fail to pay their dues n the manner provided s justified.

The FEPC has received assurance from the complainants that they are willing to pay their union dues but in return they desire full union membership. They insist, morover, that the auxiliary local setup does not provide them with that full membership and that if they are required to pay their dues into the auxiliary in order to keep their jobs it is a violaton of Executive Order 9346.

"The primary need," said the FEPC statement, "is to put these workers back on their jobs immediately. A thorough examination of the case can then be made in order to determine whether a violation of the Executive Order has occurred."

War Plants Of West Coast Feel Effect Of Race Prejudice

Globe and Independent

Nashville, Tenn.

Friends, NAACP And Other Groups Working To Get Rid Of Evil Brought By Dixie Workers Afflicted with "Superiority Complex."

ATLANTA, Ga., Nov. 25—(ANP) Southern white war workers infiltrating California war industries have made themselves unhappy, the Californians uneasy and Negroes resentful, while carrying their sectional prejudices and customs forward at every cost, a young war worker returning to Atlanta revealed Wednesday.

Robert Scott Kenning, who worked six months at the Hunters Point Naval Dry docks three miles out of San Francisco, said he quit his job, got a release and returned to Atlanta because of growing discrimination and prejulice, resulting in low morale and inefficiency at the California shipyard.

Kennon added that those who carry "supremacy" ideas to the coast are the most unhappy Americans" there, attempting to carry out the letter of their prejudicial beliefs about life and racial customs in general.

Kennon, who is 30, went to the west coast in May, enrolled in the NYA training school at San Luis, Cali. Having finished his course, he was employed as a machinist's helper, second class, at $60 a week.

The young Atlantan said he was in the first section of trainees who went into the new quarters at Hunter's Point and that at first there was no problems, since non-segregation was the rule. But when the southerners moved in, there developed antagonisms about everything.

Whites from other sections were confused by their demands, he said.

Kennon was in the midst of efforts to alleviate tensions, working in the personnel department of the San Francisco Recreational commission. He said he helped to quell a mutiny which started at one of the units. It is the belief of southerners that the Negro is inferior, unclean, criminally minded and othrewise offensive.

Then, too, the navy's policy of keeping Negroes back in helpers jobs disgusted Kennon. He revealed that ace workers who had served for years as first class joprneymen and machinists' mates were relegated to helpers' second and third class when they arrived at Hunter's Point. There seemed to prevail a feeling that Negroes were simply not to get upper class work at upper class pay. Similar conditions did not prevail at private yards, he said.

Several organizations are at work trying to combat the rising and existing prejudices being shown at the yard and in nearby San Francisco, Kennon declared. Foremost among these are the NAACP branch and the Friends, a branch of the Quaker movement.

Bayard Rustin, worker with the Fellowship of Reconciliation and a disciples of Mahatma Ghandi, was said to be one of the leading and guiding lights in the anti-bias movement.

With the movement of all Japanese from San Francisco's Jap Town, Negroes were moved over into the area from the Fillmore sector, and problems loom which may outshine those of crowded Harlem, Kennon said. The Negro population of San Francisco has quadrupled upwards from around 4,000 and they have been restricted to the Fillmore and Jap Town areas. Organizations, he said, are at work on these problems.

'Frisco Transit Company To Hire Negro Drivers

People's Voice, New York, N. Y.

Inadequate Trolley Service Works Out for the Best:

SAN FRANCISCO—An improvement in the transit situation here will result from the decision of the Market Street Railway to employ Negro street car and bus operators, Edward A. Roberts, associate director of the Division of Local Transport, Office of Defense Transportation, said in a statement issued in San Francisco, the ODT announced last week. Mr. Roberts' statement follows: "One of the reasons for the delay in the employment of Negroes on cars and buses of Market Street Railway service is the company's difficulty in recruiting motormen, conductors and bus drivers to operate their vehicles.

"There are numerous reasons for this condition. However, one particular difference between the employment policies of Market Street Railway and the Municipal Railway System has for some time been receiving the careful attention of the Office of Defense Transportation, namely, the employment of Negroes on cars and buses. The Municipal System has been employing Negroes in such service over a year and with evi- result during the next few weeks al increase in the s and buses operlic service."

COLOR NO BAR

"I am now able to report that at a conference today with Mr. Samuel Kahn, president of Market Street Railway, Mr. Kahn expressed a willingness and readiness to follow OPA's suggestion in this respect and advises that his personnel department will receive applications from all meet the company's physical a mental requirements for bus and street car employment, regardless of color.

"It is hoped that this step, which is only one of the proposals being considered for improving San Francisco transit, will

number of cars an ated in the public s

35c-1943

California

Union Bias Charged In Spite Of Shortage

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 11—Despite the fact "a supply of labor is desperately needed," Local 513 of the Boilermakers Union has discriminated against Negroes in quest of work at the Richmond Shipyards on the Bay, the War Manpower Commission was told by an advisory committee there last week.

Judge S. J. Lazarus of the State Superior Court, chairman of the committee, wrote that the committee members had reached the "inescapable conclusion" that the union, an AFL affiliate, "prevented Negro men and women from being employed in Richmond shipyards solely because they are Negroes."

FDR Gets Bitter Protest Against Union Discrimination In Shipyards

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. — West Coast Negroes are not only facing discrimination in California defense plants, but are being segregated in the unions which are supposed to represent them in their fight for equal rights as well.

This revelation was contained in a telegraphic protest to President Franklin D. Roosevelt, late last week. The wire, signed by Frances Albrier, president of East Bay Negro Women, and Navaje Boozer, secretary, complained that colored applicants to the AFL International Boilermakers' union are denied membership in the full body and are relegated to all-Negro "auxiliaries."

Chief offender in this respect, the telegram asserts, is the Boilermakers, Shipbuilders and Helpers Local, No. 513, of Richmond, which even goes so far as to decline membership to any colored persons not residing in Richmond.

This action on the part of the labor organizations, it is pointed out, creates a tremendous hardship on colored workers in the area. These individuals are unable to obtain employment if they do not hold union cards. Many of them refuse to have any part in a jim-crow union setup, and the consequence is that they cannot find work.

Petition Condemns Prejudice

It was at the same time that 160 workers from Bay shipyards, both white and colored, drew up a petition condemning the discrimination which seems to be gaining momentum in [illegible].

At a meeting held last Friday night, Mel Andrews, one of the principal figures in the movement, attacked the sincerity of the Boilermakers union. The union's international constitution, he stated, contains a clause that these auxiliary unions may be abolished by the international president at any time.

"In other words," he declared, "when the war is over we can just be eliminated."

Another one of the leaders of the anti-union petition, Ray Moore, told the Friday night gathering, "We are for labor 2000 per cent. That is why we've taken the trouble to work for democracy. The CIO unions and most AFL unions believe in equality, and practice it.

Not "Asking For the Moon"

"We are only attacking those few unions that discriminate against Negroes. We believe that 95 per cent of Bay Area workers want us to have a voice and a vote, and we know unions will be stronger if we are accepted equally with white, Chinese, Filipino and Mexican workers."

The petition charges that Steamfitters' Local, No. 590, San Francisco, has not given any Negro any clearance to work; that the boilermaker locals which do clear them bar them from union floors by putting them in these so-called auxiliaries. Here they have no real voice in their union affairs.

The complaint further points out that:

"Americans of all races are sharing great risks together, and the feeling is growing that all races must share, too, in the great privileges for which we are fighting. The shipyard committee against discrimination is not 'asking for the moon.' It asks only that all citizens, no matter what their race, have a stake in our democracy."

Kaiser Blocks Up-Grading Of Negro Ship Workers

The Worker
New York, N. Y.

(Special to The Worker)

SAN FRANCISCO.—Discussions with Negro workers employed at Richmond indicate that the problem of upgrading is rapidly becoming the major issue in Kaiser yards as far as Negroes are concerned.

Abuses by company officials in this respect are greater than discrimination in hiring.

1 — Negro people are generally funnelled into menial jobs such as laboring, from which it is difficult for them to extricate themselves.

2—While Negro craftsmen generally get upgraded according to schedule on trainee ratings, they find themselves barred from leadermen's positions.

In considering these problems, it is important to bear in mind that Bay Area shipyards, particularly Moore's at Oakland, have stepped up hiring of Negroes recently due to constantly reducing sources of manpower.

NEGROES DOUBLE

William K. Hopkins, regional chief of the War Manpower Commission, made the following statement before the Downey subcommittee hearings on this matter:

"In the San Francisco Bay Area non-whites constitute over 8 per cent of the total employment in the shipyards, whereas six months ago they constituted less than 4 per cent. In September there were about 7,400 non-whites employed in these yards; today there are more than 20,000."

Inasmuch as Negroes constitute the bulk of this non-white category, the figures are highly significant.

This, of course, does not mean discrimination has ceased; but it is definitely on the downgrade. The war is forcing this phenomenon; it is just another one of the many progressive things which the actual operation of this people's war is bringing about, even though clothed in the character of a "last resort."

Upgrading is denied a considerable percentage of Negro laborers at Kaiser's, who are promised the right to transfer to another job after a certain period of time spent in that particular capacity, but who frequently find such transfers are not forthcoming after the stated period is up.

Negroes who have been working at Kaiser's for months find that they are barred from leadermen's jobs although they are entitled to them on the basis of seniority and skill.

Kaiser management has even developed a theory to justify this stupid lose-the-war practice. The theory is: white workers will quit if they "have" to work under Negroes.

This question is becoming extremely critical today because Negro employment on a relatively broader scale dates back several months, with many of them due for substantial advances.

A recent beef which resulted in Kaiser's firing the Negro counselor at Yard One throws considerable light on the policy. Fred Hamby, superintendent of the chipping department, told a group of Negro chippers who went to see him about getting a Negro leaderman that such action was impossible.

He declared there were no Negroes qualified for leadermen's jobs, in spite of the fact that many of them have seniority over present leadermen. And as to those who did not care to work under present conditions, he invited them to apply for their discharge slips.

Such is the obstinate attitude of Kaiser management in keeping the status quo.

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

AGAINST DISCRIMINATION

Los Angeles (ANP)—Using inter- [illegible] Machinists. This union, affiliated with [illegible] ons against discrimination, a large [illegible] number of colored and white aircraft, [illegible] shipbuilding and other trade unionists [illegible] gathered in a mass meet at Phillips [illegible] temple last Sunday.

Drawing up pointed resolutions, they took steps to demand the immediate dropping of the jim-crow policies of the Interracial Association of [illegible]

Prejudices Still Exists In North American Plant

FEB 19 1943

By HARRY LEVETTE

LOS ANGELES — (ANP)That upgrading of Negro workers schooled at the North American training center is proceeding in violation of President Roosevelt's executive order 8802 was learned this week by a reporter.

The Negro trainees, one fully trained for the job and the other studying it, were told by a representative of the North American personnel department Saturday that the firm's workers "are not quite ready to accept a little Negro girl coming around telling them what to do," and advised both to give up hope of entering the inspection department at the plant.

FEB 19 1943

Inspection requires that those trained for it cover the plant checking parts and labor and rechecking inferior craftsmanship.

Willie B. Henry has been trained in electrical work and in inspection. Three weeks ago she completed the inspection class and was told by her instructor, E. Konst, that as soon as her papers from the plant rarived she would go on the job as an inspector, the first Negro woman to hold that job in the plant.

She waited impatiently for the paper, which never came.

Saturday, however, Margaret Long, of North American's personnel department came. She asked to speak to Miss Henry and Catherine Blair, also studying in the inspection class.

Taking the two trainees to a private room, she told them:

"I am very sorry that I have to tell you this. It really hurts me, and I am really ashamed of my race. You know, some of them haven't quite grown up yet, and we don't have any Negroes in the inspection part of the plant as yet.

"You know," she continued, "white people are not quite ready to accept a little Negro girl coming around telling them what to do."

FEB 19 1943

"So I'm going to place you girls back in the electrical class.

"Don't," she cautioned, "say anything to the other girls about it."

FEB 19 1943

"If they ask you anything, say that you preferred electrical to inspection."

Next, Miss Long inquired whether the girls knew Bill Gordon. Negro North American employe, who heads a company-sponsored race relations commission.

The girls said they knew Bill Gordon.

FEB 19 1943

"Bill Gordon," said the company spokesman, "understands the problems of the Negro. I've talked this situation over with him and he understands our viewpoint. He's very understanding," she added. "He's a very fine young man. You go tal kto him."

The CIO, which holds a contract with North American, has been asked to investigate. Since the CIO contract covers only plant workers and not trainees, the regular mechanism of the grievance committee can't operate in this case.

FEB 19 1943

Spokesmen for the Negro Victory committee, however, stated that North American's alibi about white people "not being quite ready" for Negro inspectors i contrary to the President's executive order 8802, Bill Gordon notwithstanding, and that such policies injure the war effort seriously.

FEB 19 1943

Conferences with the company are planned.

COAST PREJUDICE MARTYR STARTS 30-DAY SENTENCE

Atlanta, Georgia

Daily World

LOS ANGELES — (ANP) — Just as he had threatened, Judge Leroy Dawson sentenced Thomas Doram, better known as "Tony," former Xavier All-American football star, to prison as soon as a baby was born last week to him and his young wife. After five refusals for a new trial the judge agreed to delay sentence until the birth.

Tony was arrested for assault and battery resulting from a fight in the California shipyards on June 29, in which he was successful in defending himself when two white workers assaulted him.

NOV 11 1943

Said Atty. Vincent Monroe Townsend, to the Associated Negro press, "While the society potentates of our local branch of the NAACP sleep peacefully in their environs of comfort and luxury, and while the wife of Thomas Madison Doram is confined to her home with a week old baby and another child of two, suffering for the need of both protection and support of her devoted husband, being herself unemployable because of her physical condition, Doram, a martyr of freedom and anti-discrimination, languishes within the unhallowed walls of the central jail."

Atty. Townsend has also lodged an application with the city parole board requesting a full pardon and will appear in a hearing on Dec. 9 in Tony's behalf.

Having been previously initiated into full participating membership into Local 92 of the Boilermakers union under the mistaken identity of being thought a Latin-American, he refused to surrender his proper credentials when he was found to be a Negro. When his dues were thereafter refused and he was ordered to pay his dues into the jim-crow auxiliary, he likewise refused. This is believed the basis of the assault by the white workers.

Court Enjoins Shipyard From Firing Negroes

NOV 11 1943

New York, N. Y. Peoples Voice

SAUSALITO, Calif. (FP)—After a protest meeting of 700 Negro workers at Marinship Corp. shipyard, Federal Judge A. F. St. Sure granted a temporary injunction restraining further firing of Negroes there for refusal to join the Negro auxiliary local of the Intl. Bro. of Boilermakers & Iron Shipbuilders (AFL). He ordered the rehiring of 160 men already fired. At the same time the Negro workers filed a suit against the international union for $150,000 damages on behalf of 17 workers to cover loss—and expected loss—of pay.

Marinship has a closed shop agreement with the Bay Area Metal Trades Council, which it to discharge workers not in good standing with their unions. Negroes are not allowed to join the regular local. They denounce the auxiliary, saying it is "headed by a rubber stamp, with members having no voice or vote, unable to appoint their own business agent or hold elections, and eligible for less than half the insurance available to members of the regular local."

All the 1,500 Negroes employed by Marinship took a weekend off in protest, but some 1,300 returned on Monday. There are about 500 Negroes at Marinship who come under the jurisdction of the boilermakers.

The Fair Employment Practices Committee is now holding hearings in Los Angeles and Portland on this very point, but has not yet given a decision. State Atty. Gen. Robert Kenny says that, pending this decision, there is no reason for discharge of the men. "The firing of Negro workers at Marinship," he said, "means more American boys, both white American boys and black American boys, are going to die, because fewer ships will be produced." The War Labor Board is expected to intervene if the FEPC decision is not rendered before the temporary restraining order expires.

Seek More Negro Jobs In Shipyard

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Illinois

OAKLAND, Calif.—General Engineering shipyard employs thousands of workers but has only 41 Negroes on the payroll, and these are in laboring and janitorial jobs, with the exception of one electrician trainee.

This lopsided ratio was revealed by A. C. Gaffney, personnel manager of the plant, in an interview with church, union and civic leaders, investigating the absence of Negroes in welding and other skilled trades at the Alameda, Calif., yard.

JUL 3 1943

Yet Gaffney declared he is opposed to racial prejudice and professed himself in ignorance of any anti-Negro practices in employment procedure. "If I find discrimination in hiring our employees I shall immediately remove the cause!" he said.

Gaffney was questioned for clues to the situation, principally by C. L. Dellmus, president of the Oakland local of the AF of L Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. Dellmus emphasized the contrast between the thousands of Negroes employed by other San Francisco bay shipyards and the few hired at General Engineering.

"Since all the shipyards in this area started a non-discriminatory hiring policy at approximately the same time and since the other yards employ thousands of Negroes, why is it that General Engineering has only a few dozen?" asked Dellmus.

Gaffney said he did not know the reason but was endeavoring to find if any discriminatory hiring orders had been given to the unions by General Engineering department heads. He said there was no company policy as to race and that the company bars no worker for lack of skill, because conditions having now, but the filling of a new compelled the company developorder starting in July will make its own skilled workers. Attending necessary a doubling of personnel. Dellmus, Rev.

Dellmus suggested that the company sees clearly the retary, East Bay Ministerial Alcedure that gave great success at the council, Oakland; Ray Thompson, pany review all rejections, a pro-need for a no-discrimination policy, liance; Kitty Griffin, secretary, CIO Lockheed-Vega aircraft plant, and Meanwhile the committee inter-chairman of the Oakland; Gaffney promised to make a careful viewing Gaffney planned to confer Committee Against Discrimination, study of future Negro applications with local unions and find out and Ernest Gray, chairman of that According to Gaffney a "slack" whether the unions have been "in-organization's grievance committee, period exists at General Engineer-formed" that Negroes would not be who arranged the interview.

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Connecticut

Investigate Race Bias in Conn.

HARTFORD, Conn., Aug. 3 (UP). —Gov. Raymond Baldwin announced today the formation of a ten-man committee to investigate alleged racial discrimination in war and other industries in Connecticut.

The commission was authorized by the 1943 legislature to "compile facts concerning discrimination in employment, violation of civil liberties and other related matters."

It also was charged with investigating the possibility of affording equal opportunity of job training.

AUG 4 1943

COMMITTEE WILL INVESTIGATE BIAS

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

HARTFORD, Conn., Aug. 12 — For the purpose of investigating charges of racial discrimination in war plants and other industries in this State, Gov. Raymond Baldwin has named a 10-man committee. The committee will not only probe bias and collect evidence of civil liberties violations but will also weigh the possibility for affording equal opportunity of job training.

The committee, named by the Governor, was authorized by the State Legislature.

AUG 14 1943

35c-1943
PM
New York, N. Y.

Capital Transit Line Picketed

MAY 7 1943

Interracial Groups Protest Its Refusal to Hire Negro Operators

MAY 7 1943

By CHARLES A. MICHIE
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, May 7.—More than 150 white and Negro organizations joined ranks this week in a mass attempt to force the Capital Transit Corp., on whose buses and street cars war-congested Washington rides to work, to employ Negroes as car operators and bus drivers.

Yesterday, hundreds of white and Negro pickets paraded at congested traffic points in the city; resolutions were sent to President Roosevelt and the president of the utility; 15,000 tags were sold on the streets and 50,000 leaflets were distributed. A big open-air demonstration will be held tonight in Franklin Park at which Rep. Vito Marcantonio (ALP, N. Y.) and Charles A. Collins, executive secretary of the Negro Labor Victory Committee of New York, will speak.

MAY 7 1943

Public Hearing Scheduled

The current agitation looks forward to a public hearing, May 18, at which the Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC) will inquire into the charges that the Capital Transit Corp. is guilty of violations of the President's Executive Order 8802, which requires hiring for essential industry regardless of race, creed or color.

A Committee on Jobs for Negroes in Public Utilities was organized last August as an agency for relief of the manpower shortage of capital utilities through employment of Negroes. It is made up of delegates from local trade union groups, civic, church and business organizations.

MAY 7 1943

When the Capital Transit Corp. advertised in the local newspapers and out of town for operators to relieve the shortage of available manpower, this Committee sent a delegation to E. D. Merrill, president, to ask that qualified Negroes be hired. The Committee charges that Merrill refused.

Manpower Shortage

MAY 7 1943

Late last November, however, the utility was classified as an essential industry by the War Manpower Commission, and on Nov. 30 the FEPC issued an order directing the company to bring its hiring policies into line with the President's Executive Order, which became effective Dec. 5. A week later Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt addressed the operators and asked their co-operation. The Capital Transit promise to comply was carried in Washington papers the following day. But two months passed and no Negroes were hired.

Finally, on Feb. 1, B. A. Simmons, a Negro college graduates, was accepted for training. When he reported, 16 street-car operators, all members of the Amalgamated Ass'n of Street Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employes of American, Division 689 (AFL) refused to instruct Simmons. In spite of a personal appeal to the union men by their international president, W. D. Mahon, who cited the marked efficiency of Negro operators in Buffalo, New York, Detroit, San Francisco, Tulsa and Cleveland, Simmons never received instruction.

The transportation problem in Washington is admittedly critical, but the Committee will charge before the FEPC May 18 that the manpower shortage is artificial—that if Negroes were hired it would be eliminated entirely.

MAY 7 1943

New Masses
New York, N. Y.

LAST week, Washington workers protested the continued refusal of the Capital Transit Co. to hire Negroes as bus drivers despite orders to correct this policy issued by the War Manpower Commission and the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice. Negroes and whites picketed in various parts of the city, and paraded to a mass meeting addressed by a number of speakers, including Rep. Vito Marcantonio.

This protest against discrimination was seized upon by various groups to stir up racial tension. Only the superb self-discipline of the Negro population prevented serious riots—a danger not yet ended. Rumors circulated that rioting had broken out, that streetcars had been overturned, that the Negro people were about to massacre the white population, that Negroes were "taking over" hotels, restaurants, and apartment buildings. Government employes were warned to stay off the streets. School children were told to beware. Taxi drivers, guards at government buildings, schoolteachers, messenger boys, department store employes were urged to spread the inflammatory stories.

MAY 23 1943

In a front page editorial the Washington *Star* commented: "This last flood of rumors . . . may have been started by reports of a perfectly orderly and legal demonstration. . . . The department of social welfare of the Washington Federation of Churches finally conducted an objective investigation of the rumors and prepared a report. . . . Parts of it follow: 'Police, race relations personnel, and other community authorities believe that the extent of the rumors puts just "ordinary gossip" out of the question. In other words, they believe that some group of persons spread the stories deliberately. . . . These rumors were not accidental. . . . They were planted. They were extremely vicious. . . .'"

(The Washington *Post* and *News* also carried editorials on the subject.)

The source of the rumors cannot be proved. But they bore the familiar earmarks of propaganda from elements that welcome provocation as a means of hampering the war effort, preserving and heightening discrimination, and discrediting the administration. They were in the pattern of the "Eleanor Club" smear of several months ago, directed against Mrs. Roosevelt and, through her, against the President. John O'Donnell, the sneering columnist of Missie Patterson's *Times-Herald* and the New York *Daily News*, lost no time blaming the Negroes who protested the transit company's discrimination. "There would have been a nasty and bloody mess," he wrote, "because the Washington situation that night scraped the raw and sensitive skins of the race and color issue—the demand by colored groups, as they put it, 'to end Jim Crowism in Washington.' . . . They carried such banners as 'Negroes Drive Tanks in Tunisia. Why Not Drive Buses in Washington?' There was talk that colored groups would demand service in the dining rooms and grills of Washington's swankiest hotels. There were placards demanding equal service in the capital's cafeterias and taxis."

By intimating the rumors were true, O'Donnell attributed the ugly lies to the orderly and legal demonstrators. The *Times-Herald* certainly made no contribution to preventing violence.

D. C.

May 8, 1943

Negroes Seek Street Car, Bus Jobs in Washington

Washington, May 7—(AP)—All city police leaves were cancelled and extra military police placed on duty tonight when some 3,000 persons, by estimate of their leaders, paraded in a demonstration demanding that Negro bus and street car operators be hired here.

The parade began at Tenth and U streets, N. W., in the heart of Washington's "Harlem" and wound up at Franklin Park about four blocks from the White House.

Representative Marcantonio (Al-NY), among the speakers at the park, told his cheering audience that "race segregation and discrimination" are "domestic Fascism" and must be stamped out.

The demonstration was organized by the "committee of jobs for Negroes in public utilities." W. S. Johnson, chairman of the committee, said about 150 labor and other organizations were affiliated with it.

Johnson told reporters that President Roosevelt issued an order in December directing the Capital Transit company, which operates the bus and street car lines here, not to discriminate between races when hiring employes.

He said the company subsequently accepted one Negro as a candidate for an operator's job, but that the company's employes refused to give the man training.

Bee
Chicago, Ill.

MAY 23 1943

Negroes, White Picked for D. C. Transit Co. Jobs

WASHINGTON, May 13—Thousands of government workers, en route home Wednesday afternoon, were amazed to see parading the little park in front of the Municipal building a group of young people, white and colored, carrying placards demanding opportunities for Negroes to work on the street car and bus lines of the Capital Transit company. One sign read: Negroes drive Tanks in Tunisia, Why Not Buses in the Capital?" Another card listed the other cities where Negroes are hired as bus drivers.

Guardian
Boston, Mass

MAY 22 1943

RIOT INCITEMENT BALKED IN WASHINGTON, D. C.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Col- the White House and to pro- test against the situation which organized a demonstration last week on Friday to protest against the mass meeting from the heart of the "We drive tanks in Tunisia— section to Franklin why not drive buses in Washington, within four blocks of Negroes" were rumors

Public sentiment, as expressed by a white woman on the street car, is against such a move, unless it is brought about by governmental action. But this woman's

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

spreading that they would demand service in the dining rooms and grills of Washington's swankiest hotels. They also had placards demanding equal service in the capital's cafeterias and taxis.

Washington was plenty worried. They feared every step of the marchers. Then the Chief of the District of Columbia police, Major Edward J. Kelley agreed to the parade to the scene of the meeting. A colored band played "The Star Spangled Banner." From the first, colored leaders laughed at suggestions of trouble and shrewdly pointed out to their audience that only their enemies were trying to discredit them by such a development.

Riot rumors circulated as an aftermath of the meeting but were scotched with the cooperation of Washington dailies and the NAACP Bureau. Stories that colored people had bought up all the pocket knives were revived.

Among other fantastic stories circulated among whites and unheard by colored folk was the rumor that all the banks in the city were to be robbed. It was rumored that the parade to the discrimination protest meeting was to become a full fledged invasion on the capital.

It was rumored that 800 thugs were being imported from New York to invade downtown hotels and theatres. It was rumored that buses and street cars had been turned over by colored riobers and that Fort Belvoir had cancelled all leaves of colored soldiers because there was going to be rioting in Washington.

Public building guards told women clerks to get off the streets before 6 p m.

None of these rumors had any basis but bus and cab drivers whispered cautions to white passengers to get off the streets. Congressman Rankin shouted on the floor of the House on Friday afternoon that everyone knew that a riot was about to break in Washington. Department store clerks asked on Thursday to be allowed to go home early. And the switchboards of all white newspapers were tied up with all sorts of reports of anticipated racial strife.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Job Committee Scores Transit Company for Failure to Hire Negro Street Car & Bus Operators

Declaring that the people of Washington are becoming increasingly incensed over the failure of the Capital Transit Company to employ Negroes as bus and trolley operators, the Committee on Jobs for Negroes in Public Utilities today sent a letter to Monseignor Haas, Chairman of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, urging immediate action on this issue.

The letter, which states the need for Negro bus and streetcar operators to help solve the drastic transportation problems of the nation's capital, reads in part as follows:

"The people of Washington are becominb incensed at the delaying tactics by which the Capital Transit Company continues to avoid the employment of Negro bus and street car operators. We urge you to bring this issue to a decision in the immediate future.

"These facts are clear: (1) Despite the very pressing need for additional bus and street car operators for the increased volume of war transportation, the Capital Transit Company still refuses to employ available Negro workers in these jobs; (2) Despite President Roosevelt's Executive Order and at least one formal directive from your committee, the latter issued more than seven months ago, the company maintains its jim crow employment; (3) Despite the successful experience of other cities in the employment of Negro operators, the company still refuses to adopt this enlightened policy in the nation's capital; (4) Despite the expressed will of hundreds of organizations and many thousands of citizens on the District of Columbia, the company still continues its absolute bar against Negro operators."

Vivian Mason By-passed In Department Promotion

New York, N. Y.

Special

Peoples Voice

What seems to be a deliberate attempt to jockey Vivian Carter Mason, director of field administration in the Department of Welfare now on sick leave, into a position to preclude further advancement in the department, came to light this week when *PV* learned that, during her absence, her immediate superior had resigned and that a woman who had worked under her was stepped over her head.

Mrs. Mason, one of the country's outstanding social workers, and who has made enviable records in competitive civil service examinations, has been on sick leave since Labor Day, when she was critically injured in a train disaster outside Philadelphia, which cost numerous lives.

SUBORDINATE PROMOTED

When she left, Edward E. Rhatigan, was director of public assistance. He either resigned or went out on leave to work with the Lehman Committee. Working directly under Mrs. Mason at the time was Mrs. Charlotte Authier, who was named acting director of public assistance when Rhatigan left.

When he was reached Monday morning, Commissioner of Welfare Arnstein told *PV* that "all of Mrs. Mason's rights are being preserved," and that there isn't and never has been a definite line of demarkation between Mrs. Mason's and Mrs. Authier's positions in the department.

He said that Mrs. Authier wasn't as high on the civil service list as Mrs. Mason, but that she had been promoted and that the two women now occupy the same grade. Questioned as to when this promotion took place, the commissioner admitted that it has been since Mrs. Mason has been on leave. He never answered definitely whether or not Mrs. Mason would be working under Mrs. Authier when she returns to work.

WORKERS ALARMED

"There has really been no change," he declared. "Mrs. Mason has been assigned to special duties in connection with important matters in the department in the past, and she will continue with these assignments, for which she is highly qualified."

A number of Negro workers in the department, however, expressed genuine alarm over the situation. They feel that Mrs. Authier was named acting director of public assistance before Mrs. Mason's return to work, scheduled for the first of the year, in order to save the department the embarrassment of naming a Negro to the post left vacant by Rhatigan.

Seek Transit Jobs In Washington, D. C.

Atlanta, Georgia
Daily World

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — The Committee on Jobs for Negroes in Public Utilities was scheduled to have a "plain talk" conference with Chairman Francis Haas of the Fair Employment Practice Committee on Monday to [illegible] out what is delaying the employment of Negroes by the Capital Transit company.

In a leter to Msgr. Haas, the committee declared the responsibility of FEPC in the matter to be "grave." "Not only must you be concerned with the pressing needs of war transportation in the nation's capital," wrote William S. Johnson for the utilities job committee, "but also with the effect of the companys law-defying bigotry upon the morale of Negro citizens and the growing racial tensions of our community."

Capital Transit Co. Agrees to Hire Negroes

New York, N. Y.
Daily Worker

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2.—The indignation of the "common man" in the nation's capital was seen by observers as the reason for the announcement this week by the Fair Employment Practices Committee that the Capital Transit Company is taking "steps" to comply with the President's Executive Order No. 8802 prohibiting discrimination against the Negro people.

A huge parade and open-air mass meeting several months ago, sponsored by the local Committee on Jobs for Negroes in Public Utilities, protested the transit company's refusal to hire a single Negro operator or conductor on its thousands of public vehicles.

Monsignor Francis J. Haas, chairman of the newly reconstituted FEPC, made the announcement regarding Capital Transit at a press conference the other day.

Meanwhile, the Committee on Jobs issued a statement hailing this victory of the people over discrimination-as-usual forces in Washington, and pointing out that Capital Transit has "agreed to the employment of Negroes as bus and trolley operators," and that the FEPC has given assurances that "every step possible is being taken to effect the new employment policy agreed to by the Capital Transit Company."

However, no one has yet seen Negro motormen, conductors, or bus operators in Washington, and the past policy of the transit company makes it essential that pressure be put on the company that the "new employment policy" is actually put into effect.

35c-1943
Afro-American
Baltimore, Marvland

White Juveniles Draw $4,600
Colored Vets Held to $1,440

Rank Discrimination in Job Classification Charged to U.S.

By MABLE ALSTON

How the government agencies are saddling inexperienced white juveniles on the tax payer at exorbitant salaries, while freezing colored employees of long standing, was revealed this week following a survey made by the AFRO.

Congressional investigation was threatened, recently, into the employment practices which made it possible for inexperienced job holders as young as 18 to 26 years of age to land jobs paying as high as $4,600 a year.

Colored college graduates with more than 20 to 30 years experience in the government are still being retained at the lowest salary rate, $1,400 per year.

Examples Given

The following cases are a few examples of the high salaried white juvenile executives. Case 1, entered the government service at the age of 21, just out of college, and now at 25, he is senior classification officer in a war agency at $4,600 a year. In this position his word determines the ratings and salaries of approximately 3,500 employees.

Case 2, is the one of a youth, 18, who started as an under-clerk receiving $1,260. Eight years later he is a principal classification analyst of a war agency earning a salary of $3,800 annually, and his rulings dictate the employment fate of several thousand employees.

From Stenog to Technician

Then there is the one of a young woman, now 23 years old, who started as a stenographer two years ago in a war agency. Now in the position of training technician she makes decisions which affect the employment ambitions of thousands. Her sole qualification is a degree from a fashionable women's college in Virginia.

Compare the above with that of the majority of colored clerks who have had more than 20 years experience in the Quartermaster General's Office and have not risen beyond the entrance grade of $1,440, regardless of their education or qualification.

Scandal Created

While the rapid advance of young white clerks with only a few years and months service has created a scandal worthy of Congressional investigation, faithful colored clerks have little attention paid to their complaints.

In cases where a colored clerk has the temerity to complain to the supervisors, one of her trusties is tipped off to inform the clerk that "Army officers are here only for a short term, but these are here forever, so if one goes over the supervisor's head it will be too bad when the officer leaves."

AUG 21 1943

Discrimination Flagrant

The above intimidation is found to be strongest among the supervisors of German extraction. Their hatred reaches out first to the Jews, then to the colored clerks. They are very cautious, however, to see that the advancement of the Jews is not retarded too long.

But they have no hesitancy in boldly and brazenly telling the colored clerks that they must wait until Miss So and So and her group are advanced; and this group is a never ending one, so the colored clerks are retained at the initial and lowest salary rates

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GENERAL

THE HORIZON

BY P. L. PRATTIS

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

IN ITS REPORT of the proceedings and activities of the convention of the American Federation of Labor in Boston, PM published a comment of one of the delegates which is characteristic of the leadership of many of the gang-infested internationals of that aristocratic labor body. This delegate was much put out by the fact that A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, had sternly denounced color discrimination practiced by unions in the federation and had called upon the national body to take an unequivocal stand against such racial bias. For two hours, Mr. Randolph stood before the assemblage, a hodge-podge of intransigent toughs, bullies, gangsters, gropers, aggrandizers and whatnots, and bravely made a plea for democracy within the organization. Many of the delegates smarted under his withering fire. Then, when it was all over, the delegate referred to by PM, stated:



Mr. Prattis

"Well, he asked for it, and he's gonna get it!"

He meant that Randolph was to be given the bum's rush—that the crusty, hoodlum leaders in the AFL were going to gang up, on the following day, on this lone Negro asking for justice. And they did. They didn't debate the merits of the issue defined by Randolph and burned into their consciences by his acetylene zeal. No, they called him names, they denounced him PERSONALLY. Not a single delegate addressed himself to the point raised by Randolph, the exclusion of Negroes from seven unions and the practice of organizing Negroes into auxiliaries where Negroes are required to pay dues, but have no voice in the union affairs. As noted by Pegler, the men in these unions must pay a poll tax and are deprived of the vote after they pay it.

RANDOLPH'S FAITH

This writer can recall when Randolph took the Pullman porters into the federation. He did not approve of the action at the time. It was not because he liked Randolph less, but because he hated the practices of many AFL unions more. Randolph had the faith to believe that if he got on the inside, he could do more to destroy these practices than he could on the outside. That was nearly 20 years ago. He has labored wisely and prodigiously ever since. You may give him credit for forcing the President to issue Executive Order No. 8802, creating the Fair Employment Practices Committee. But in 20 years of pounding away against discrimination in the federation, he has not been able to win one major concession. Year after year, he has made his eloquent plea and year after year, the convention and the offending internationals have ignored him. Only this year, it was worse—they ganged up on him. They called him a traitor to his race.

This writer has often questioned Mr. Randolph's methods. He will continue to do so with nothing of a personal nature involved. But he does not question Mr. Randolph's aims for his race. He has been bold, daring and absolute. He has trimmed no corners. Sometimes, we believe, he has led with his chin, but whenever he has done so, he has been doing the best he knew to knock out the foes of his people. This writer is proud of the animosity he aroused at Boston. Tobin and Frey and Grover and all the rest of them can say what they please, but we shall take our stand behind the Randolph who spoke at Boston.

GREEN'S CHARGES

WHAT EFFRONTERY William Green had to charge the Negro press and Negro organizations with sabotaging the AFL! Such a puppet leader should know better than to make such charges. Years ago, Green promised Negro leaders that the AFL high command would do something about discrimination. Now he takes refuge in the fact that the internationals comprising the federation are autonomous. He says the federation has no governing body to require the internationals to do anything. Of course, the internationals which do not discriminate lack the character to get together and outlaw those which do. They'll never cut off the source of revenue from offending unions. How can Green expect Negro newspapers and Negro organizations to embrace the discriminatory policies of AFL unions. The Negro press and Negro organizations are firmly labor-minded and union-minded. They have turned their faces toward the Congress of Industrial Organizations because those unions have not ducked the issue of discrimination. They have not solved the problem, but they have the courage and character to try. If Mr. Green wishes to see the attitude of Negroes toward the federation change, let him contrive to have the executive council issue a forthright, unequivocal, democratic statement against discrimination. That will not destroy the practice, but it will go a long way toward convincing Negro workers that blackness has departed from the hearts which were turned against them.

Reveals Own Conclusion Of Survey

For 20 Years Randolph Has Tried — and Failed — to Change Heart of A. F. of L.

By LEON W. TAYLOR

(EDITOR'S NOTE: As a special investigator and labor expert for the Associated Negro Press Leon W. Taylor has for the past three years been studying racial discrimination as practiced against Negro workers in American industry. We feel that his discoveries and conclusions will be a revelation to those interested in one of the most serious problems faced [illegible] nation today.)

DAYTON, O.—(ANP)—All of us have heard the many bitter stories of Negro workers denied jobs at their skills or denied any kind of employment in most of our large industrial plants through out the country. All of us have been at times discouraged and of course deeply resentful of discriminatory practices by both white industrial leaders and some union organizations.

3 Year Study

After a three year study of the problem during which I actually worked at several types of occupations in several kinds of industrial plants, I have obtained some very definite information pro and con and drawn some, I hope, useful conclusions.

1. Attitudes and traits have contributed immeasurably to the plight of the average Negro worker in the lower-wage brackets.

2. That if the Negro worker would put a muffler on his mouth, take the chip off his shoulder, assume a deeper sense of responsibility for the work at hand, and expect to barter a fair amount of labor in exchange for his paycheck, his services would be more in demand in all lines of production.

3. One-fifth of all Negro workers in this bracket are incapable of sustained effort at their given tasks, thus causing the remaining four-fifths to receive the same label in the eyes of the average white worker, who makes no distinction among Negroes.

4. Great numbers of Negro workers are unable to bear promotions with a mental equanimity precluding presumptions of false importance.

5. The average worker enters upon every job calling two strikes upon himself, in that he scouts the eventuality of his own promotions and does nothing to render himself worthy of same.

6. Contrary to our conception, the white worker is sympathetic and friendly to Negro workers of ability.

7. The majority of executives are more than anxious to fit in competent Negro workers who prove free from obnoxious characteristics.

8. The discovery of real ability and proficiency in a Negro worker means usually to an executive, "not where he came, but how far can he go."

9. In plants where a firm stand is taken from the start by the head of an organization, little trouble is experienced from newcomers, and they take their places beside Negro workers without comment.

10. The "Uncle-Tom" or "monkey-shine" type Negro worker in any plant is the greatest handicap to the progress of his fellow-men.

11. The system of seniority as employed by both labor unions in big plants is a stumbling-block to masses of Negro workers, since a comedy-type Negro worker may be held above efficient workers below who may not be advanced over him, by virture of his seniority.

12. The average worker fails to keep pace with the times, and is unwilling to accept modern innovation. He loses stride, and is relegated to the rear.

13. Negro teachers everywhere can do a yeoman's job instilling into youth the dignity of honest labor, and the importance of doing its job well rather than in a haphazard fashion.

14. The importance of work must be epitomized, instead of a capitulation to frivolity and a deification of false sophistication.

15. My last conclusion pertaining to the general field of Negro workers skilled, semi-skilled, and unskilled, is, "The fault, Dear Brutus, is not in our stars, but in ourselves, that we are underlings."

Railway Job Jim Crow Attacked By Daily Press

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

The sixteen Southern railroads which defied the FEPC on employment Practices ruling by refusing to comply with an order that Negroes be promoted according to qualifications, were roundly denounced in editorials appearing in the daily press from New York City to Louisville, Kentucky.

For the railroads' announcement that it is "impracticable and impossible" for them to bring their hiring policies into conformity with democratic principles, the widely-read Washington Post had nothing but scorn.

"Their (the railroads') response to the FEPC directive reveals an arrogant and cynical contempt for the committee's purposes, as well as for its authority. They do not evince even a desire to cooperate."

Declaring that the railroads' contention that the fair employment of Negroes would disrupt peaceful relations with their employees and antagonize the traveling public is "conjuring up bugbears" the Post points out that "for half a century white workers and travelers have been accustomed to Negro firemen on the railroads."

"What the FEPC has demanded is by no means unrealistic. This is borne out by the fact that four important railroads—the Virginian, Louisville & Nashville, Texas & Pacific and the New York Central—published by the Courier-Journal, Louisville, have moved to comply with its directive. In war time we cannot permit prejudices or monopolies to keep skilled and willing workers out of essential jobs.

"As a democracy, we cannot, any time, condone racial intolerance to the economic opportunities. The FEPC has come to grips courageously with a tough problem. It should have the full support, against the obstructionism it has encountered, of the whole Federal Government and the American public," the Post concludes.

Equally as vehement in its praise of the FEPC and its criticism of the Southern railroads was the August New York Herald Tribune in its praise which said that the discriminatory policies of the railroads militate against the war program by creating distrust and resentment among Negroes generally; by barring from war production needed manpower and by giving credibility to that enemy propaganda which points to this country's refusal to permit Negroes to work under the same conditions as whites.

New York Post accuses the railroads with reviving the Civil bogbooth of racial superiority. Negroes will not be permitted to learn whether, as a practical matter, a delicate issue such as this (union discrimination) can be satisfactorily resolved by governmental degree."

Negro firemen and brakemen who are running those railroads don't want to unions continue to refuse to railway employment, obey FEPC edicts. The Washington Star points out that the answers of Negro railroad conantagonizing travelers in the Negro firemen and brakeof railway employment, riers have conjured up a

roads for [illegible] ruling the real rules which are intended would not need to exist unfair and sensible approach question raised by the

Louisville Courier-Journal ployer, they don't want it; by a one-time FEPC put it on the basis that their Mark Ethridge, condemns customers won't have it."

It is predicted that the courts will have the final decision in the matter of railways and discriminaorder directed tion as the courts sustain the committee on the legal issues. "First, the courts should soon learn whether, as a practical matter, a delicate issue such as this (union discrimination) can be satisfactorily resolved by governmental degree."

New WMC Job Pacts Guard Against Discrimination

WASHINGTON.—(ANP) — Reasonable safeguards against discrimination are being incorporated into the employment stabilization agreements with the authority of the War Manpower commission last Friday, it is learned.

Employment stabilization programs, the result of labor-management effort to solve the problems of labor supply and demand, are arrangements involving restrictions on separation or hiring of workers whether through issuance of statements of availability, referral by the United States Employment service, or otherwise. Specifically, they seek:

1. The elimination of wasteful labor turnover in essential activities.

2. The reduction of unnecessary labor migration.

3 The direction of the flow of scarce labor where most needed in the war program.

4. The maximum utilization of manpower resources.

It is pointed out that an employer who fails to adhere to the terms of these programs on this score will be denied the use of USES facilities, which means that he will be unable to recruit labor through that agency if he is unwilling to use Negroes. Anna Rosenberg, regional director in New York, has already said that she is prepared to withhold service from an employer who violates the prog[illegible]

PRETTY EXPENSIVE

They say that figures don't lie. If so, then try to understand this news report:

"Occupational discrimination against colored people costs the nation's industries between $15,000,000,000 and $20,000,000,00 yearly, Dr. Maynard Krueger, Chicago University professor, charged Thursday night at the Institute on Racial Minorities in the Postwar World."

Between fifteen and twenty billion dollars! Think of it! Whatever else may be truthfully said about race prejudice in America, if these figures are correct then one of the things that can be said is that it is pretty expensive.

35c-1943

Are These Men, 'Vanishing Americans', Too?

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.



SEP 11 1943

A. PHILIP RANDOLPH, President of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters Provisional Committee to Orangize the Colored Locomotive Firemen with a small group of the men who are being threatened with loss of their jobs on American Railroads. The white American Railroad Brotherhoods have sworn to work Negro firemen entirely from the left side of an engine's cab. Eleven of the firemen have been murdered while at work. The firemen's case against the white Railroad Brotherhoods is being brought before the FEPC in Washington, D. C., on Sept. 15-20.

SEP 11 1943

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

WASTED MANPOWER

By ALBERT BLACK

IS THE Sun Shipbuilding and Drydock Company using colored labor at its greatest capacity? The press carries glowing reports that the Sun Ship Company is well impressed with the productivity of the employees in 4 Yard. I would like to call the attention of the public to the story which appeared in a Pittsburgh newspaper, October 9th issue, concerning production in 4 Yard. Mr. Burke stated that he had received a challenge from the U. S. Maritime Commission for 4 Yard to contract for the remainder of the year four vessels of the Marine Eagle, Marine Robin, Marine Raven and Marine Wolf types. With stories like this being released, naturally the public is given the impression that 4 Yard is producing like the other yards. No. 4 Yard can produce like other yards, if given a fair chance; but is the company using the colored worker to his fullest capacity?

NOV 20 1943



BLACK

NOV 20 1943

Why does there seem to exist an organized campaign to slow up production in Four Yard? It is a fact that in the shipfitters' and linermen's departments workers have been told by their supervisors to "take it easy." The Fabrication Shop, which is not only turning out bulkheads for Four Yard but for South, Central and North Yards as well, is not operating on three complete shifts. In the Copper Shop, there are only two shifts working.

The welders have the greatest difficulty in finding work to do. The management offers no explanation in regard to this condition. Because of the lack of machinery in the Sheet Metal Shop, over 29,000 man hours have been wasted since last February by the employees traveling to Central Yard to get work made up.

The chippers in Four Yard have been working under a deplorable promotion system that was in effect in Four Yard only. In the other three yards a chipper was promoted at the end of an eight-weeks' training period to a second class handyman's rate. This was a company rule. In Four Yard it had not been enforced. Only through the efforts of the CIO Union was this flagrant discrimination policy broken up.

The most outstanding example of a terrific waste of manpower is the position of the cleaners at Sun Ship. This department is the only one in the entire shipyard in which old man Jim Crow exists. The Company's policy in regard to skilled men is very poor and the cleaning department will bear me out. There are many skilled colored sweeping and cleaning boards, and not permitted to enter into the department where they can work at their trade and be of more benefit to the war effort. These men are promised that, after 40 hours of work in the cleaning department, they will be transferred into the department where they can use their skill. But this promise is never kept by the company.

NOV 20 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Negro Labor Problem Difficult and Serious;

DEC 19 1943

Issues Require Airing

By LEO WOLMAN

DEC 19 1943

It would be a mistake to underestimate the seriousness and difficulty of the Negro labor problem. There is no denying that the Negroes have suffered grievously from wholesale discrimination, not only in the South but throughout the country. Now that the vast expansion in war employment has substantially ameliorated the economic lot of Negroes and public recognition of their problem has opened to them many additional opportunities, it would be an equally grave error to assume that the problem can be settled immediately and once for all by directive or mandate. The public needs to know what discriminatory practices there are. The Negroes themselves have much to learn and it is in their best interest to realize that the status they seek can be achieved only slowly and after much uphill work.

Employers and labor would find it worth their while, in the interest of fair labor practices and to avoid violent racial conflict after the war, to approach this problem in a more liberal and farsighted spirit.

Larger Issues Involved

On the part of organized labor the task of dealing fairly with Negroes is complicated, because, aside from race prejudice which probably plays only a minor part in union behavior, discrimination involves larger issues of economic policy. The progressive reduction in the number of Negro workers on certain types of railroad employment, which was protested by the Negroes and which recently was the subject of investigation and action by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices, is the result of policies aimed to establish job monopoly. The point of these policies is not alone that they may bar employment to Negroes or others, but more especially that their purpose is to limit entrance into a trade or industry.

DEC 19 1943

Such practices flourish in industries in which employment is on the decline and in which the union or unions in control seek to maintain or improve existing standards of wages and working conditions. The wage rate is raised in order to insure those who retain their jobs higher earnings and elaborate rules such as seniority and make-work provisions are enacted and enforced in order to make jobs last longer and, it is hoped, to make more jobs. These expedients are, of course, expensive. Instead of arresting the decline in employment, they probably accelerate and intensify it.

They may, and often do, improve the position of the diminishing numbers remaining on the job. But they keep out of employment, not only Negroes, but whites as well.

Thus, they are typically monopolistic practices which, in addition to their usual economic consequences, cause peculiar suffering to the individuals and groups against whom discrimination is practiced.

Other Policies Illustrated

Another form of prohibition is illustrated by the policies of the union, now in litigation on the Pacific Coast. In others like it, Negroes are admitted but only as auxiliary, subordinate, or Class-B members. Not being full-fledged

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members they fail to receive the benefits and rights of membership. Substantially what they get is a work-permit for which they pay fees to the union as long as they work. By this method the union is able automatically to drop from its rolls all of its auxiliary members whenever the volume of employment declines and the competition for jobs becomes more intense. At the same time, the administration of a union need fear no political reprisals from these members since their voting rights in the union are strictly limited.

To practices and policies of this character, the statement just issued by 16 Southern railroads does not seem an adequate or fair reply. It is true, as they say, that "railroads are forbidden by law to interfere . . . with the self-determination or self-organization of their employes, or to effect by unilateral action, any changes in such (labor) agreements." But the fact remains that the fair treatment of any class of employes is a matter of vital concern to the roads; agreement or no agreement. The railroad unions, likewise, can hardly hope to discharge their responsibilities by refusing, as they did, even to appear before the Fair Employment Practices Committee. Nor is it clear how the National Mediation Board (the Government agency under whose jurisdiction labor relations on the railroads are conducted) can continue to regard these questions with indifference.

New Republic
New York, N. Y.

Railroads and Negroes

It is easy to understand the sense of shock with which the Southern railroads and Southern railroad labor received the order of the FEPC to end discrimination against Negro firemen and to do it at once. Anti-Negro discrimination is an article of faith with most Southern white men, although they would never describe it in those words. They resist any suggestion of equality even though they claim they are willing to do much for the Negro if only it is not demanded as a right. No doubt many of them were sincere in saying that such a shocking change in Southern mores must be preceded by a long campaign of education. Nevertheless, these arguments are without any rational basis. No one disputes the fact that Negroes make perfectly good railway firemen. No one disputes the fact that they are used throughout the South for other kinds of work requiring a similar degree of responsibility and skill. Any trade unionist, North or South, who exhibits anti-Negro prejudice is guilty of betraying thereby the fundamental concepts of both trade unionism and democracy. The order of the FEPC should and must be carried out.

PM
New York, N. Y.

Employer Resistance to Drive For Negro Placement Shown

By James A. Wechsler
PM's National Editor

WASHINGTON, Nov. 24.—Despite a wartime increase in general Negro employment throughout the U. S. A., "only very small advances have been made in the placement of Negroes in skilled and semi-skilled occupations," a WMC (War Manpower Commission) investigation has revealed.

The WMC survey discloses a lot of unpleasant truths about the outcome of the drive to extend job opportunities for Negroes amid the Nation's acute manpower troubles. It shows that Government efforts to secure full utilization of Negro labor have met far more stubborn resistance than is generally acknowledged.

The OWI (Office of War Information) did not formally release the report, but mimeographed copies were distributed — without OWI's imprint—through the OWI Negro News Desk to Negro correspondents, one of whom lent a copy to this reporter. A WMC spokesman confirmed the fact that the report had been prepared by the Commission.

"In the acute labor shortage areas of the North, where war industries are much more diversified than in the South, the utilization of Negroes has progressed much further," the report said, "but Negro employment is concentrated with respect to occupations, establishments and industries.

"In the South, with few exceptions, no steps are being taken in the direction of upgrading Negroes to new occupations nor is there any hiring of Negroes to meet the demand of establishments seeking workers for skilled job."

The survey declares that "employer reports indicate a slow but upward trend in the general level of employment of Negroes." Thus, in July, 1943, Negroes represented 7.3 per cent of total employment in those "major war establishments reporting non-white employment," in contrast to a percentage of 5.8 per cent a year before.

But:

¶ "Out of every hundred placements of non-whites, six were in skilled and semi-skilled jobs in the second quarter of 1942 while a year later the number had risen only to 10."

¶ There are big variations between industries and within individual industries in the extent of utilization of Negro workers. In May, 1943, Negroes represented 43.2 per cent of total employment in tobacco manufacturers, 21.8 per cent in lumber, but only 2.7 per cent in electrical and other machinery and 3 per cent in textile mill products.

¶ "Unnecessary shortages" have developed and persisted in occupations for which Negroes are available as a result of these contrasts in hiring polices. Out of 227 local transportation companies, the report said, only eight employ Negro operators despite a serious shortage of such employes.

¶ "While some big firms consented to hire Negroes at the outset of the war program, this employment gain "obscures the more basic problem of the limited employment of Negroes in a large number of smaller individual firms scattered throughout the tighter market areas."

Examples:

In the Buffalo region two firms making scientific instruments employ only eight Negroes in a labor force of 3000.

In Akron last May there were only six Negroes working in nine companies employing more than 2000 workers.

Among the anomalies cited in the survey is the case of Spartanburg, S. C., where "employers are refusing to hire locally available Negroes and at the same time are insisting that the Government provide additional housing facilities to house white workers."

35c-1943

On The Home Front

Civil Liberties Union Wages War Against Discrimination

Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.

JUL 31 1943

NEW YORK, July 29—Although in general the state of civil liberty is much better in World War II than in World War I, race discrimination and violence have been accentuated in the past 18 months, according to the annual report of the American Civil Liberties Union for 1942-43 issued this week under the title "Freedom in Wartime."

curiae.

The Union is handling an unusual case in the federal court at New York involving a Negro in the army who sought release by habeas corpus on the ground that he had been called to service by race discrimination. Two separate draft quotas were created — one for whites, the other for Negroes. A writ was denied in the District Court and is on appeal to the Circuit Court of Appeals.

The report covers three extradition cases defended by the Civil Liberties Union—in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. In all three, Southern states sought to return Negroes charged with offenses.

In Pennsylvania, extradition was denied by a court. In New York, representations by the A.C.L., resulted in a promise by Mississippi officials that the Negro would be given a fair trial. On the basis of this promise he was returned. In New Jersey, Governor Edison withdrew his original warrant of extradition after receiving many protests and the state of South Carolina dropped its demand.

Changed relationships and war tensions, the report says, have brought widely scattered outbreaks of mob violence against Negroes, unprecedented for years in severity.

Discrimination against Negroes in the armed forces and in defense industries, and in all agencies engaged in the war prompted the American Civil Liberties' Union to form a Committee Against Race Discrimination in the War Effort headed by Pearl S. Buck.

Reviewing its work for the past year, the Civil Liberties' Union reported that it co-operated with 25 national organizations when War Manpower Commissioner McNutt in January 1943 suddenly called off important hearings on discrimination against Negroes in the railway industry, scheduled by the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee.

The Union co-operated with the NAACP in testing in the federal courts the Texas law excluding Negroes from tse Democratic white primary. Although the case was last in the District Court and the Federal Court of Appeals, it has been accepted by the U.S. Supreme Court for review this fall in which the Union will file a brief amicus

PLAIN TALK

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Must Stop Wave Of Reaction

By ELMER CARTER

PREVIOUSLY I ATTEMPTED to outline the significance and meaning of the mass walk-outs by white workers which have occurred in many sections of the country when Negro workers either were taken into a plant engaged in war work for the first time or were promoted to jobs demanding greater skill.

It doesn't require much intelligence to see that behind this display of race prejudice there is planning and organization that is nation-wide. The strategy of these American fascist Negro haters is much more subtle and dangerous than the old Ku Klux Klan, although their methods are similar, in that they both work in the dark. But the modern Klux-er does not attract attention to himself by wearing white robes and black masks. He works underground and his attack is through labor organizations for there he can easily play on the poor whites' fear of competition, and his ignorance.



His aim in this latest move against the Negro is to incite the workers and to plant in their minds the germs of active racial antipathy. Once that is accomplished, the Negro, at the close of the war, will be forced out of employment and the rest will be comparatively easy. The threat of mass walks-outs will terrorize the employer who will hesitate to run the risk of financial loss by opposing the will of the white employees.

MOVE BY REACTIONARIES

And besides, the mass of white workers once indoctrinated with ideas of racial hatred can be manipulated to push forward toward a more complete participation in American life. It is the force by which reactionaries hope to reduce the Negro to colonial status, to eliminate him as a political factor in the United States and to spread the idea of racial segregation throughout the land.

To some Negroes and whites this seems preposterous. "It can't happen here" — is their attitude! And so they go along more or less placidly confident that the machinery of racial adjustment which has served them in the past will serve them in the future. But the machinery of yesterday is old and creaky and is inadequate for the gigantic task that the present and future hold.

In last week's column I suggested that the Negro must meet the threat within organized labor by complete identification with organized labor by joining so as to be able to make the fight on the inside. But this is not enough. There must be a regrouping and a new alignment of the liberal forces in America if a tidal wave of reaction and anti-Negro sentiment does not sweep the country when the war is over.

MUST BE NATIONWIDE

This new alignment of forces must be on a nationwide scale. The forces must consist of representatives of the church, labor and fraternal bodies, colleges and universities, organized social work and those groups in the community which are committed to economic and social advance, both white and black. And these forces must be organized as a unit to counter adverse propaganda and to act as the first line of defense. They must be ready to take the offensive and to utilize the churches, the schools, and the press in order to press home the battle for complete democracy.

JUN 20 1943

The basis of this organization must be local and regional rather than national. Its power must stem from the bottom, not from the top. And it must be geared to meet the problems peculiar to each locality through men and women of both races who live there, who make their living there, and who are familiar with the social and economic conditions which there prevail.

MUST STAND GAFF

The individuals who compose these bodies must be carefully selected. They must not be those who cannot stand the gaff when the going gets tough, those who fear that a forthright stand will invite social or economic reprisal. Nor those whose livlehood depends upon the whim or caprice of philanthropy. In almost every community there are such as these. Small in number but able if properly organized to accomplish much. After all, twelve devoted and single-minded men changed the history of the world and sent the story of Christ from the little province of Palestine to shake the foundations of the Roman Empire.

7 Delegates at Canadian Meet

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.

JUN 26 1943

MONTREAL, Canada — The thirty-first annual session of the International Association of Public Employment Services here barred discussion of the question, "How to Secure Fuller Participation of Minority Groups in an All-out War Effort."

This question was on the original agenda but was deleted from the official program. Of 840 delegates, only 7 weer colored.

They included:

Mrs Myra. C. Callis, supervising interviewer U.S Employment Dervice, Washington; Miss Lillian Ingraham, supervisor, records and Reporting Unit, U.S.E.S. Philadelphia; Mrs. Arra P. Goode, clearance division, U.S.E.S. Newark;

Mrs. Gail n. Beagle, interviewer, Philadelphia; Louis Hall, U.S.E.S. Placement officer, Newark; Mrs. Ernestine Hollman, U.S.E.S. clerk Cleaveland, and Mrs. Pauline J.S. Purye, U.S.E.S. recruitment division, Newark.

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Delegates came from the U.S., Canada and Mexico. From the U.S. Southern whites made up the largest unit, and at dinner led in singing "Old Black Joe " "Carry Me back to Old Virginny" and "Old Kentucky Home," in which colored delegates did not join.

United States News

Racial discrimination. Employers henceforth will be under more pressure from the Government to employ Negroes to ease their man-power shortages. That is to be the effect of President Roosevelt's executive order creating a new Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

The order abolishes the old Committee set up in June, 1941, and takes away from Chairman Paul V. McNutt, of the War Manpower Commission, the authority he held over the Committee's activities. The new Committee will be an independent unit responsible only to the President.

This shift answers some of the objections of Negro organizations. They have complained that the old Committee had not been vigorous enough in attacking the problem of racial discrimination in war industries. The Committee's new chairman is to be Monsignor Francis J. Haas, dean of the School of Social Science at Catholic University, and an experienced labor conciliator. The old Committee had been without a chairman for some time.

Mr. Roosevelt's order has teeth in it in the form of a provision requiring all firms selling to the Government to include in all future contracts a clause guaranteeing that the contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant because of race, creed, color or national origin. The contractor also must write such a provision into all subcontracts.

At least one serious situation involving racial conflict awaited action by the new Committee. This was a case in Mobile, Ala., where white and Negro workers left their jobs as a result of disturbances over the hiring of Negroes. The Maritime Commission asked the Committee to intervene.

Washington, D.C.

Change Tactics! Call Kansas City, Mo.

The new employment that has come to our group as a result of the war, is an opportunity to be used, or muffed. Employment is given us because of what we can produce. That it helps us make a living is only incidental. We should be realistic. We should see that the employment given us is contrary to custom. Therefore we have the task of making custom over. Coming last on the job, it follows that we get what others leave, namely the worst tasks and the poorest tools. It could not be

JUN 4 1943

This situation is a challenge for the resolute, for those who feel that what-ever man has done, man can do. The Negroes who broke into industry in spite of the custom are to others assurance that they too can make good. Such Negroes are typical of the best in the American people, real pioneers in spirit, men and women who say with the philosopher:

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

"Give me a lever and a place to stand and I will move the earth."

All are not resolute, however. Some have a different outlook, born that way, spiritually weak as there are men born physically crippled. But for the most part Negroes who let circumstances daunt them are victim of a bad habit. They are weak where they could be strong, mentally sick where they could be well, because they do not face the facts, the most important of which is that the individual is architect of his future. That holds true for all, whatever their race and color.

For Negroes to hold a place in industry, they must be acceptable to employer and fellow employe. They are now because war pressure makes them acceptable. Obviously by the time the victory is ours, new ground for acceptance must be laid. There is the summation of all our hopes, and a worthy objective.

Because race and color is the reason that has been given for denying them work, Negroes have reached the conclusion that an attack on race prejudice is logical. They have made that attack a frontal assault backed by scientific facts, sound logic, and the Constitution of the United States. Their strongest advocate has stated their case within the councils of labor. The plea did not bring the result desired. The door of opportunity did not swing open until war needs made it open.

At whatever cost we must win the goodwill of industry. This is not a question of who is right and who is wrong. We must find the means to an end.. We have tried hard and failed to get the other fellow to change his way. The conclusion follows that if the mountain does not come to Mahomet, then Mahomet must go to the mountain.

There must be a way. Where Negroes have not been able to drive out race prejudice by condemning it, they might uproot it by making themselves so respected that their difference in appearance is forgotten in admiration for their deeds. The writer had a friend who entered the Union army out of slavery in Kentucky. Even that early he was a man of mark. Once he was on picket duty, the last in line. The army broke camp. Somehow the picket next to him failed to call him in. For two days and nights he walked his beat. Then his absence caused inquiry and he was found, — on duty. No wonder he lived to be respected and admired, and died a clerk in the store where he began as janitor.

By complaining so much about discrimination, we Negroes have called attention from our service to our appearance. We have let ourselves be "touchy." though as children we learned that the way to escape being teased is to pay no attention to teasers. We know also that they way to get more pay is to earn it. Let's put these two ingredients together.

Let's turn over a new leaf. Let's copy the pincer movement of military strategy and make a two headed drive on employment. On the one hand, let's quit being so quick to ascribe all our difficulties to prejudice. Let's remember that other people have problems as well as we. That's one attack. The other attack is such an attitude toward our work that we will be marked for ability, and reliability.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

NEGRO EXCLUSION FROM TRADE UNIONS.

The resolutions committee at the American Federation of Labor convention has recommended that the various unions continue their efforts to eliminate discriminations against Negroes. With this as his text, Mr. A. Philip Randolph, spokesman for the sleeping car porters, took the platform to criticize some twenty unions that he said refused membership to Negro workmen. He laid particular emphasis upon the racial policies of the boilermakers, machinists, blacksmiths, and railway clerks. Representatives of a number of these organizations were about to offer replies when the meeting was adjourned.

Perhaps the federation will find a solution of this problem but there is ample ground for skepticism. The abuses complained of are old ones and progress toward correcting them has been slow. We believe that unions which exclude Negroes are as benighted as employers who refuse to hire them, but the prejudices that inspire conduct of this sort are deep seated and cannot easily be eliminated. Many workmen feel that in a free country they have the right to admit or exclude from their unions anybody for any reason. These opinions may not be defensible morally or legally, but they exist and must be reckoned with.

Perhaps the remedy lies in appropriate amendments of the Wagner act, the anti-trust acts, and of state labor laws. They might well forbid closed shop agreements with unions which refuse membership to Negroes, because such contracts automatically deprive Negro citizens of an opportunity to earn a living at certain trades. Further than that, the Wagner act might contain a provision refusing recognition as a bargaining agency to a union which excludes Negroes. Corresponding provisions might be written into the laws giving trade unions certain exemptions from anti-trust prosecution. As matters stand, federal law can be said to sanction discrimination, and in so far as it does so the Negroes have every justification for complaint.

There is scarcely a human being alive who does not harbor a prejudice of some sort. Practically speaking, it is impossible to eliminate prejudice by law, but it should be possible to keep the law from itself becoming an engine of prejudice. Unions which are guilty of discrimination against Negroes, in violation of the spirit and perhaps also the letter of the Constitution, should be denied the special privileges which unions enjoy under the statutes.

WMC Is Falling Short In Utilizing Negro Manpower

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16—Announcement last week by Justice James Byrnes, director of the Office of War Mobilization, that West Coast aircraft and shipbuilding industries will need this fall and winter more than a quarter of a million workers over and above those already on the West Coast served to accent the failure of the War Manpower Commission during the past year to take effective steps to utilize Negro manpower, particularly women.

The story of the utilization of Negro manpower in war-time boils down to this at the present time: Negro workers have, during the past year, found steadily increasing opportunities at some kind of war work. They were 5.8 per cent of workers employed by 16,000 firms in July, 1942. About a year later these same firms employed more than a million Negro workers, who were 7 per cent of their labor force.

PROMOTIONS UNLIKELY

In critical war industry centers like Baltimore, Los Angeles and Detroit, almost any able bodied Negro male can find a job, but he will have a tough time getting promoted to skilled or semi-skilled work.

Negro women have found jobs in restaurants, laundries, soda fountains and in domestic service left vacant by white women who have gone into war work, but there is continued employer-resistance to jobs for Negro women in war industry.

Outside of the South, Negroes no longer have difficulties in securing pre-employment training in government schools which they encountered a year ago, but in the South, War Manpower training facilities are still bogged down with respect to Negro training programs.

FIND COMMON LABOR

In the South tens of thousands of Negro men and women have found common labor jobs in government installations, such as ports of embarkation, air fields, Army camps and the like, but the higher cost of living is eating up their greater money income and the jobs are bound to disappear at the end of the war.

Aside from a small percentage of Negro workers whose skill and ability may have won them a permanent place in the aircraft industry, most Negro workers are now on jobs of short duration only.

While War Manpower Commissioner McNutt is this week vigorously prosecuting plans to recruit the after-school time of 'teen-age youth and has going, full blast plans for recruitment of womanpower, the War Manpower Commission is not now and has not in the past done more than give lip service to the program of full utilization of Negro manpower through effective upgrading of Negro males and by a public campaign for recruitment of Negro women.

NO APPARENT PLANS

No apparent plans of the War Manpower Commission indicate any attempt to change the old adage that "the Negro is the last to be hired and the first to be fired."

But what makes this story news is the fact that the next six months will offer untold opportunity for Negro employment—even at skilled work, and for Negro women—regardless of whether the War Manpower Commission begins an effective campaign for upgrading and full use of Negro workers or not.

Asks Negro-Labor Political Alliance

CHICAGO (AP)—Speaking before over 150 Negro and white labor leaders attending a banquet given in his honor by the Douglass Institute in Washington, James B. Carey, CIO secretary-treasurer, made a strong bid for Negro support for a political alliance with organized labor to establish an iron-clad mutual freedom from unemployment, and other legislative matters."

With reference to freedom from unemployment the CIO secretary-treasurer declared that if the government would prevent the scrapping after the war of its 23 billion dollars worth of plants and industrial equipment, unemployment would be kept to a minimum.

"Certainly," he continued, "in the past few months we have learned that it is far easier to fight prejudice and discrimination when everybody has at least a fair chance to find a job. Widespread post-war unemployment will not only set back the progress we have made toward abolishing racial discrimination, but will intensify the evil. For the few jobs available Gentiles will fight Jews, Protestants will fight Catholics and whites will fight Negroes. Only by sending men to Congress who are willing to use political power to protect the interests of the American people will we be able to prevent this calamity."

Carey, CIO secretary-treasurer, made a strong bid for Negro people other legislative matters."

With reference to freedom from unemployment the CIO secretary-treasurer declared that if the government would prevent the scrapping after the war of its 23 billion

James B. Carey, who was presented to the

New York, N. Y.

Labor Forum

By M. Moran Weston

THE ATTENTION of the nation was called last month to the contribution of Negro shipyard workers to winning the "battle of the Atlantic" against Hitler's U-boats. The occasion was when the first ship planned and constructed by all Negro labor on the east coast was launched from the Sun Shipbuilding and Drydock Company yards at Chester, Pa. This column is opposed to the segregation of Negro workers from white for any reason based on race. The plan to set up the all Negro Yard No. 4 by the Sun Company at Chester was unfortunate at the outset. The record of the satisfactory working together of Negro and white workers in other yards made it unnecessary. No doubt there would be situations where white workers would object to the advancement of Negro workers in yards with mixed crews. But these incidents could be solved without delay of production. Proof of this is the way Local 43 of the Shipyard Workers Union-CIO helped solve such an incident at the Bethlehem Fairfield yards in Baltimore, as reported in this column a few weeks ago.



Mr. Weston

Amsterdam News

JUN 5 1943

Sun Company Anti-Union

Of course the Sun Company would find it more difficult to handle such problems because of its anti-union policy. The relation between the Sun union policy and its jim crow policy is as clear as the nose on your face. Of course Sun Company would be the first to deny that it has a jim crow policy. The fact is that it has been trying desperately to make Yard No. 4 all Negro. Conversations I have had with several workers at the Sun Company yards reveal, however, that the complete segregation policy originally announced has not been carried out in just that form.

It seems clear that the real purpose the Sun Company has in setting up a large Negro unit—the plan calls for 9,000 Negro workers in Yard No. 4—is the same that Henry Ford had in hiring large numbers of Negroes in his foundry. That purpose was to keep an open shop, to prevent a bona fide trade union from organizing the workers. Well, today the largest local of any union in the world is Local 600 of the UAW-CIO at the Detroit Ford plant, 93,000 strong. And with it for the first time Negro workers at Ford plant really began to get ahead. Of course there were in the past many stooges who got good jobs and special favors. Government reports show that altogether Sun Company employs 13,000 Negro workers for building ships.

New York N.Y.

JUN 5 1943

Have Bad Production Record

The Senate committee investigating war contracts revealed some interesting facts about the employment of Negroes in shipyards. These facts led to the general conclusion that **all shipbuilding companies which follow a policy of not hiring Negro workers have a bad production record; that those companies with the highest percentage of Negro workers have the best production records.** This is true even where the companies employing Negroes follow an unscientific policy of keeping Negroes in the unskilled and lower wage jobs. An outstanding example of the relation between race discrimination and bad production is the Houston (Texas) Shipbuilding Company. At the time of the Senate Committee investigation this company had not launched a single ship. The Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company (Newport News, Va.) has a payroll of which 27% are Negro workers. This company has the best production record in the country for the construction of naval vessels.

Employed in North Carolina

The North Caroline Shipbuilding Company at Wilmington, N. C., employs 28% Negro workers. Its production record on merchant ships equals that of the much talked about Kaiser Company Oregon shipbuilding yards. The North Carolina Company (a subsidiary of the Newport Company) follows the unscientific and undemocratic employment traditions of the South even more religiously than the Newport Company. It is losing more than 28% of its potentially best workers production. The Richmond California Yards of the Kaiser Company hires some 8,000 Negroes out of 30,000. The Bethlehem Fairfield Yards, Baltimore, employs some 7,000 Negro workers out of over 28,000.

The Maryland Drydock Company (Baltimore) and the Todt Drydock yards in and around New York City employ Negro workers. But the large New York Shipbuilding Company yards at Camden, N. J., defiantly follow their old jim crow policy of refusing to employ Negro workers. And the production record of this New York Company compares unfavorably with that of companies whose Negro workers make up a large percentage of the total crews. It is clear then that to lick jim crow in the shipyards is to help lick Hitler on the seas; that this job can best be done where there are strong, progressive unions.

JUN 5 1943

RAILROADS MUST CHANGE POLICY OR LOSE VITAL COLORED WORKERS

OCT 2 1943

SHIPYARDS, AIRPLANE COMPETITION ALREADY DRAWING AWAY HUNDREDS

Guardian
Boston, Mass.

By THE ROVER

So far as I gather this week, the New England railroads are not involved, to any noticeable degree at least, in the recent FEPC hearings just concluded which concerns charges of race discrimination against workers of 22 major railroads of this nation. Sinee we do not have jim-crow train passenger service in New England it is not unlikely that New England workers (with guts) suffer the least.

OCT 2 1943

Locals Have Chance

While not an expert on railroad affffairs, I understand that many New England lines and railroad branches have a surprisingly fine calibre of skilled colored workers who equal and often surpass many of the white workers similiarly employed. This is all the more impressive considering that the Colored population here is small compared to all of the other states involved in the FEPC hearings. Not too many sepia New Englanders have gone into the railroads, but those with the necessary qualifications and courage have generally made good. Perhaps you know a few. Only last week, Harry Fisher, an airbrake inspector with the N. Y.-N. H. and Hartford since 1922, told me of another colored chap who, as a kid used to hang around the Boston and Albany yard at Allston. First they drove him away daily, then they got tired of that and gave him a job as a sweeper but but the boy loved the big engines and so they let him clean the big iron horses and as he wiped the engines he studied their construction until he one day was hired as a mechanic's helper. Today the young man is a 1st class mechanic and there is no white mechanic who can touch him. This, I believe, is fairly representative of the railroad picture in these parts.

OCT 2 1943

OCT 2 1943

Many Make Good

There are probably dozens of interesting stories about colored men on the various railroads but all of them have one thing in common; the colored chap had no "inferiority complex," he was just as good, in his belief, as the other American. Railroad men, generally, are a militant, intelligent type of citizen, some being quiet and others roughly outspoken, all of them potential dynamite when stepped upon by anybody. Inspector Fisher tells me that the N. Y.-N. H. and Hartford has some first class skilled help just about equal to anybody. Being colored, the men have had to study and work harder than the rest. Charlie Walker, sepia boiler-maker, is rated tops in his line, even by the whites and Israel King, a cracker-jack pipe-fitter, enjoys the same reputation in his own line. Mr. Fisher is the only colored air-brake inspector and often he is the only air-brake inspector present to take charge. Color does not enter into the picture. It's ability that counts here.

OCT 2 1943

The Darker Side

This is not to imply that all is milk and honey with the New England railroads. There undoubtedly is some prejudice here as well as anywhere else, but the railroads are seemingly not the worst offenders. Whether we have colored firemen or engineers hereabouts I don't know. Whether colored have applied for such is a question to consider. The darker side to the rail transportation system in New England so far as I am concerned is the Boston Elevated which is today hiring white women conductors while still denying these opportunities to colored men. The very least colored laborer on the Boston El fully deserves to be upgraded at these times. Why hasn't the Boston [illegible] which daily reaps riches from colored customers, assumed a democratic attitude sufficient to hire race conductors, bus drivers, train starters and ticket collectors? Oh yes, the El wants colored cleaners.

OCT 2 1943

May Lose Out

The case against the majority of railroads could have been put much stronger, considering the jim crowing of colored civilian and soldiers, especially on southern lines. The hearings would certainly have taken years to complete if all the plaintiffs appeared. However, the case put up by the colored employes is strong enough to discourage many potential colored railroad workers and cause them to seek jobs elsewhere. This move would be bad at a time when the railroads are fairly screaming for help and when the shipyards and airplane industries are waving such luscious lures to colored people everywhere. There is one thing the colored man has found out in this war: he has his choice of jobs and he does not have to stick to any which treats him with race prejudice. Here's hoping the railroads turn over a new leaf and give the colored brother a real break. If it wasn't for the Chinese and colored workers in the past there probably wouldn't have been any railroads in the country as we know them today.

OCT 2 1943

Union Discrimination Seen

New York Times

Exclusion of Negroes From Membership Held Inimical to War Effort

New York, N. Y.

SEP 29 1943

To the Editor of The New York Times:

I desire to commend you for your editorial "Racial Discrimination" in The Times of Sept. 22, in which you refer to the case before the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, involving the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen.

Recently Prof. Charles S. Johnson, in his "Patterns of Negro Segregation"; James Rorty in a pamphlet, and Dr. Herbert R. Northrup, in the June issue of The Journal of Political Economy, have made public lists of unions which exclude Negroes or otherwise discriminate against them. The lists are substantially the same, but the one furnished by Dr. Northrup, whose book on the subject will be published by Harper soon, is probably the most authoritative. According to him the following unions exclude from their membership Negro workers:

International Association of Machinists, Airline Pilots Association, Commercial Telegraphers Union, National Organization of Masters, Mates and Pilots, Order of Railroad Telegraphers, Railway Mail Association, Switchmen's Union of North America, American Electric Workers, American Flint Workers, Asbestos Workers, Heat and Frost Insulators, International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers, International Brotherhood of Firemen and Oilers, International Brotherhood of Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers, International Brotherhood of Stationary Firemen, International Hod Carriers, Building and Common Laborers Union, International Longshoremen's Association, International Seamen's Union of America, Marine Cooks and Stewards Association, Metal Polishers, Buffers, Platers and Helpers International Union, National Association of Letter Carriers, National Federation of Post Office Clerks, National Postal Transfer Clerks Union, Railway Express Agency Employes, Railway Patrolmen's International Union, Railway Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employes, Sheet Metal Workers International Association, Stove Mounters International Union, Switchmen's Union of North America, Tunnel and Subway Constructors, United Association of Journeymen Plumbers and Steamfitters.

Other Organizations Listed

These are affiliates of the American Federation of Labor. The following Railroad Trainmen, Railroad Yardmas-

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ters of America, Railroad Yardmasters of North America, Order Railway Conductors, American Train Dispatchers Association.

In addition there are seven A. F. of L. unions and two unaffiliated organizations which afford Negro workers only segregated auxiliary status, which places the Negro locals at a great disadvantage, for the policies are determined by the white locals, with little or no participation by the Negro auxiliaries, and the delegates and business representatives are generally chosen by the white locals only.

The practices of exclusion and discrimination by segregation are violations of the President's orders relating to the organization and powers of the FEPC. In New York State they are also violations of the Civil Rights Act (Section 43).

Practices Held Indefensible

These practices by labor unions are indefensible at any time, but especially at a time when our country needs every ounce of manpower in order to defeat the Nazi and Fascist system, which has as one of its chief tenets a belief in the superiority of one race over another. The exclusion of Negro workers, and other forms of discrimination, keep from jobs men and women whose energy and industry could produce things essential to national defense. The named unions, by their policy of discrimination, are committing an act which is unpatriotic and against the law, as well as an act which outrages the basic principles of the democratic pattern of life.

MILTON R. KONVITZ.

New York, Sept. 24, 1943.

The writer of the foregoing letter is a member of the faculty of New York University, general counsel to the New Jersey State Housing Authority and assistant counsel to the NAACP.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Negro Class Suit Is Left With Court

A complaint alleging that the Louisville and Nashville Railroad and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen had discriminated against negroes in promotional and seniority privileges was taken under consideration yesterday by the Alabama Supreme Court.

No final judgment was requested. Counsel for Bester William Steele, negro fireman, asked that the case be sent back to Jefferson Circuit Court — where the original complaint was dismissed —in order that the defendant union and carrier might be required to answer his contentions in a formal trial.

Steele's petition for an injunction against alleged discrimination, which also asks $50,000 damages, was described in briefs as a class suit involving negro firemen. The suit alleges that while the Brotherhood represents a majority of employes, the union and the carrier have conspired to withhold seniority and promotional privileges from negroes, who, it was charged, constitute a minority not eligible for union membership.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Negro's Case Is Set For Supreme Court

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — (AP) — A hearing has been set for Nov. 23 before the Alabama Supreme Court on a Negro railroad fireman's charge that because of his race he has been denied seniority and promotion.

Discrimination by the Louisville & Nashville Railroad and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Fireman and Enginemen was alleged in a suit by the fireman, Buster William Steele, who is employed on the Mobile-Decatur division of the L. & N. Railroad. Steele asks damages of $50,000.

The case was appealed to the Supreme Court from the Jefferson County (Birmingham) Circuit Court, where last April 27 Judge E. M. Creel entered a ruling against the plaintiff. Both the railroad and the union denied the charges.

The suit also alleged a "conspiracy" between the railroad and the union. Negroes are not permitted to join the union, which is exclusive bargaining agent for the railroad, Steele contended.

The petition, in which Steele claimed seniority rights as a fireman since 1910, said the plaintiff "brings this action in his own behalf and as a class suit on behalf of the other Negro locomotive firemen on said defendant railroad, said other Negro locomotive firemen constituting a class so numerous as to make it impracticable to bring them all before the court . . ."

afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Brooklyn League Asks Job Equality

BROOKLYN, N.Y.—In its annual report issued last week, the industrial relations department of the Brooklyn Urban League made a strong plea for upholding the rights of colored people to work without restrictions in war industries.

The basis for the plea was what Lorenzo Davis, industrial secretary, classed as instances of discrimination and the failure to integrate colored people into government, industry and organized labor. Author of the report, Davis stated that the bars are still tight against colored workers.

Only Menial Jobs

The league secretary stated further that men could secure jobs only as porters and laborers in both essential and non-essential industries; that women were lowest paid and limited to menial tasks, and that because of this, interest in war training courses was low.

The reasons for the bars were listed as:

1. Unfair hiring practices of industrial firms; (2) refusal of companies to employ workers at their highest skill; (3) barring of women from clerical positions in factory offices; (4) tendencies of employers to discharge colored at the slightest complaint; (5) biased labor unions, and (6) lack of adequate checking by Federal employment agencies to insure democratic placement methods.

The report urged that workers press for their rights, co-operate with organized labor and friendly agencies, take advantage of training courses and report all instances of discrimination.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Labor Discrimination Hearing Is Scheduled

WASHINGTON —(AP)— Charges that 23 railroads and 14 labor unions have discriminated against Negro and Mexican workers will be studied at hearings in Washington Sept. 15-18.

The president's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, which will conduct the hearings, said Saturday one of the chief matters to be taken up will be the reported practice of considering Negro railroad workers "non-promotables."

This is alleged to have been done, FEPC declared, through negotiation of agreements between unions and railroads which set certain restrictions on the percentage of Negroes which may be employed in a stipulated category.

Railroads listed include Atlantic Coast Line, Atlanta Joint Terminals, Baltimore and Ohio, Baltimore and Ohio Chicago Terminal, Central Railroad of Georgia; Chesapeake and Ohio, Chicago and Northwestern, Georgia Railroad, Gulf, Mobile and Ohio, Illinois Central, Jacksonville Terminal Company, Louisiana and Arkansas, Louisville and Nashville, Missouri-Kansas-Texas, New York Central, Norfolk Southern, Northern and Western, Pennsylvania Railroad, St. Louis-San Francisco, Seaboard Airline Railroad, Southern Railroad, Union Pacific and Virginia Railroad Company.

Railways Lack Manpower-Bar Negroes

Daily Worker
New York, N.

By Eva Lapin

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.—It was more than three months ago that A. F. Whitney, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, sounded the warning that the railroads were headed for a manpower crisis.

Now, Joseph B. Eastman, director of the Office of Defense Transportation, has sounded the same warning, though a little late.

"The United States is headed for a crisis in railroad manpower unless drastic remedies are undertaken immediately," Eastman declared last week.

NEGROES BANNED

From all the train accidents which have been occuring throughout the country any layman could figure out something was wrong with the railroad situation.

The trouble is—not enough workers. And Mr. Eastman put forth a thirteen-point program to ease the situation.

There is only one catch. He ignored the largest reservoir of railroad workers—Negroes.

In all his talk of the various steps that should be immediately undertaken Eastman did not once refer to the hiring of Negro workers or the halting of discriminatory practices which keeps them in the ranks of common laborers.

And the ODT did not see fit to mention the investigation of these Jim-crow practices now being conducted by the Fair Employment Practices Committee nor the public hearings on railroad discrimination scheduled to open September 15 in Washington.

Eastman boldly told the railroads that his suggestions for relieving the manpower shortage "must be pursued at once, no matter how foreign they may be to past customs and practices."

But nowhere among the remedies suggested by the ODT is the halting of discriminatory practices against Negroes.

Instead Eastman suggests, and this is all very well, the further use of women, the use of Mexican workers and prisoners-of-war, regional pools of trained workers, labor-management committees and better eating and training facilities in the yards.

At the FEPC, where officials are busily at work on the forthcoming hearings, they admitted being surprised by the failure of ODT to list Negroe workers as the largest source of manpower supply for the railroads.

The FEPC is investigating 22 railroads and 14 railroad unions on charges of discrimination against Negroes. Among the railroads are the Pennsylvania, the New York Central, the Baltimore & Ohio, the Illinois Central, and all the railroads operating in the South.

On the whole the ODT program sounds sensible except for that one glaring omission. The railroads are urged to prepare replacement schedules on draft-age workers, to organize employee recruiting drives, to determine what jobs could be filled by women and by them, to use Mexican workers and prisoners of war.

One of the points in the program is the need to inaugurate immediate action to improve housing, eating and commissary facilities. Another is "a program of systematic labor-management cooperation," with the ODT hitting out that "thus far management has not manifested the necessary interest."

Post
Washington, D. C.

U. S. Accused at Race Hearing

By the Associated Press

A War Labor Board sociologist yesterday testified that another Federal agency, the National Mediation Board (railways) had aided and abetted discrimination against Negro workers on Southern railways.

Dr. Herbert R. Northrup, WLB adviser on Negro labor problems, appeared as the first witness in the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices, hearing charges of discrimination against 22 railroads and 14 railway labor unions.

Dr. Northrup said Dr. William M. Leiserson, chairman of the Mediation Board, and the late James W. Carmalt, former member, had aided and advised white labor unions on methods to deny Negro workers fair representation in collective bargaining.

Letters Go Into Record

Letters from Leiserson and Carmalt revised a white union invited in a jurisdictional election that increased representation for Negro workers constituted an "unhealthy condition," Northrup reported.

Leiserson, he said, divulged strategic plans of the Negro helpers to white union officials in advising them to withdraw their own case from Mediation Board jurisdiction and to railway labor union officials election. Carmalt advised Negro workers win a union

Letters were read into the record by Northrup.

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Editorials

DA

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.



This battery of noted AFL leaders who spoke, sought to bridge the wide gap between the resolution they adopted, praising the Fair Employment Practice Committee, and their practices which are not "fair employment practices." Some of the unions of these leaders are actually under FEPC charges, just as some employers with lily-white hiring policies are.

Yes, as William Green said, it is a process of education. But such education is meaningless without corresponding practical measures to wipe out disgraceful dividing lines that some unions have retained since pre-Civil War days. The movement for elimination of race bars in the labor movement must be stepped up.

Rail Unions Must Share Blame for Industry's Jim Crow

(Editor's Note: This is the second of a series of three articles on Jim Crow practices in the railroad industry based on a survey by the Chicago Committee on Railroad Employment for presentation before the Fair Employment Practices Committee hearings in Washington.)

ARTICLE II

CHICAGO, Sept. 14.—While management of the nation's railroads must share the main responsibility for discriminatory practices against Negro workers, the railroad labor unions and the government also stand charged today with aiding and abetting Jim Crowism in the face of a wartime railroad manpower shortage.

The charge was contained in a brief prepared by the Chicago Committee on Railroad Employment for presentation before the Fair Employment Practices Committee hearings in Washington set for tomorrow.

Supported by a battery of evidence from a thorough investigation of working conditions on the railroads, the charges point not only to management's labor policies which were discussed in Article I but also to certain narrow, short-sighted, undemocratic policies and practices as the nation's railroads are the bastion of discrimination against Negroes in American industry. Once this citadel is taken the other fortresses of Jim Crowism in industry could be expected to fall.

NEGROES EXCLUDED

These policies and attitudes are expressed in union constitutions, by-laws and working agreements which exclude Negroes not only from membership in unions, but also contribute toward the discrimination against Negroes in the whole field of railroad employment.

Discussing railroad labor union policies and attitudes, the Chicago Committee declared:

"They deny to Negro workers the right to certain jobs. They prevent them from exercising their seniority rights. They deny them the right to apprenticeship training. They deny them the right to advancement and promotion to higher skilled, better-paid and mechanical jobs to which their experience and skill entitle them.

"In this way the railroad unions and railroad managements work hand-in-hand to maintain this discriminatory policy."

VIOLATE FDR ORDER

The elimination of these union policies and attitude would prove a crushing blow to all Jim Crow

Current discriminatory practices in excluding Negroes from virtually all capacities in government and quasi-governmental agencies in the railroad industry, established under the Railway Labor Act, also is pointed out.

No Negroes apparently are employed as mediators, referees, research workers or even clerks by the National Railroad Mediation board, which is a "lily white" institution with a history of never having had Negro representation on the board, even in a clerical capacity.

Pointing out the Office of Defense Transportation has the power to "end the malicious un - American practices of discrimination against Negro workers," the Chicago Committee declared:

"We hope, in the face of the existing shortage of manpower on the railroads, that the ODT will join in taking steps to abolish such practices by the railroad companies by strictly enforcing Executive Order 8802 in the interest of supplying the shortage of manpower in the railroad industry.

TOOK NO ACTION

"In conferences with railroad management and with representatives of the Association of American Railroads on the railroad manpower shortage, the ODT to our knowledge took no action against discrimination, made no effort to contact the Fair Employment Practice Committee, or to enforce President Roosevelt's Executive Order 8802."

Another Jim Crow practice is the placing of signs, "For Colored," over certain washroom, toilet, locker, health and other facilities in most railroad terminals throughout the country. Most railroads by custom and practice with or without signs maintain Jim Crom toilets, lockers and washrooms for Negro employes that are smaller and less-well kept that those for white persons.

One victory cited by the committee occurred last June when such signs were taken down in Chicago's south side roundhouse of the New York Central road after repeated protest by employes.

Railroads that practice this policy of segregation in the Chicago area include Baltimore & Ohio; Chicago & Alton; Chicago, Burlington & Quincy; Chicago and Northwestern, and Illinois Central.

In Illinois, this practice violates the state's Civil Rights Laws.

Sleeping accommodations for Negroes employed on trains often are notorious, the Chicago committee found. A white dining car steward often will be put up at a comfortable hotel while Negro waiters, cooks and Pullman porters are forced to remain in dingy crew quarters in noisy train yards or are put up in dilapidated hotels and rooming houses.

Serves All The People

Postmaster General Warns Against Discrimination In Post Office

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

JUN 12 1943

WASHINGTON, June 10—"Discrimination is repugnant to all our principles of good government and decency. The Postal Service serves all the people and all the people pay for and support the Postal Service," wrote Postmaster General Frank C. Walker in a recent issue of the Postal Bulletin, organ of the Post Office Department.

"From time to time reports come to the department that postmasters and other supervisors lack fairness in handing their employment, promotional and supervisory responsibilities . . . Party affiliations, race, creed and color are the principal reasons ascribed," Mr. Walker continued in his message to all postal personnel.

WORKER SHOULD HAVE FULL OPPORTUNITY

"Every postal worker should have full opportunity of aspiring to and reaching positions to which their talents, his energy, his integrity entitle him. It is the duty of each postmaster and each superintendent to see to it that his office is so conducted that it cannot be charged justly that any person whomever under his jurisdiction has not received the promotions, the assignments, or other benefits that are due him."

Mr. Walker concluded: "I also hope that persons who feel that they have been treated unfairly will use understanding in the manner with which they, in justice, present their case. There is much reason for patience and forbearance on both sides when the charge of discrimination presents itself. The problem is not insoluble if approached in this spirit."

Advises Solidarity Forever In Ranks Of American Worker

Pittsburgh Courier

JUL 10 1943

NEW YORK, July 8 — (ANP) — White workers and Negroes must be warned against the danger of race riots, according to an editorial appearing in the current issue of the Communist paper. In review of the recent Detroit race riot, the editorial said that such tragic clashes threaten not only the welfare of the Negro people but also the interests of the labor movement.

RAPS "KKK"

In mentioning the activities of the Ku Klux Klan and similar groups, it said that such organizations have long been at work in the state of Michigan and that their members have worked hand in glove with the superintending personnel of the auto barons to incite white workers against blacks.

"These tools of reaction have intervened in the present situation to whip up anti-Negro feeling among the whites, hurl one section of the working people against another, and thereby arouse fear and distrust among the Negroes against all whites," the editorial stated, and said the inevitable result of such racial antagonism will be "to divide the working masses to sap the strength of organized labor, and to weaken the unions.

DID HEROIC JOB

"The Negro workers of Michigan played an heroic role in building the industrial unions in the auto centers," the editorial went on. The 1937-sit-down strikes were recalled, when Negro and white worker worked side by side in their fight against the corporations," and splendid demonstrations of class solidarity on the picket lines and in the plants brought the auto barons to their knees.

"The CIO unions from the very first have preached and practiced the fraternal solidarity of all workers regardless of color, race, creed or political persuasion," said the editorial. "This has been one of the prime sources of strength and support the CIO has received from the most oppressed and exploited sections of the masses. Now when these bonds of solidarity are being endangered it is necessary that they be drawn tighter than ever before.

ENEMIES MAKE ONLY GAINS

"The enemies of the workers, black and white, are the sole beneficiaries of racial conflicts, antagonism, and prejudices. Every white worker should realize that the hoodlum gangs which are today being incited and thrown against the Negro minority are being trained for other reactionary actions [illegible] their own self-defense the mobs in Detroit and elsewhere are today obliged to come to the defense of the Negro people and exert their power to end these lynch attacks and prevent their recurrence.

"'Solidarity forever!' between white workers and colored must be the watchword of the hour."

Hearing Is Resumed In Case Against L.&N.

News

Birmingham, Ala.

NOV 24 1943

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—(AP)—The Alabama Supreme Court resumed Wednesday hearing of a charge that the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen had discriminated against Negroes in granting promotions and seniority privileges.

The petitioner, Hester William Steele, a Negro fireman, seeks to enjoin the union and the railroad from continuing the alleged discrimination and asks also for $50,000 damages.

The case was appealed from Jefferson (Birmingham) Circuit Court where it was dismissed on original trial.

Counsel for Steele contended Tuesday before the court that the brotherhood, through a work agreement with the company, had attempted to "drive Negroes entirely out of the service."

DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT

Commissioner Paul V. McNutt has had charge of the commission to prevent discrimination in employment because of races. Many of his friends are surprised because of his inaction and failure to act even after flagrant cases were reported to him. President Roosevelt has justly revamped this commission and placed thereon those who we believe will give better satisfaction in endeavoring to clear the situation. The president has given the new set-up the "power to appoint personnel and power to promulgate such rules and regulations as may be appropriate or necessary to carry out the provisions of this order." The president ordered that hereafter all contracting agencies of the government shall include in all contracts a provision obligating the contractor not to discriminate against any employee or job applicant because of color, race or national origin, and requiring him to include similar provision in all subcontracts. The president emphasized that appropriate steps must be taken to obtain elimination of such discrimination. He further announce that "It is the duty of all employers, including the several federal departments and agencies and all labor organizations in furtherance of this policy and this order, to eliminate discrimination in regard to hire, tenure, terms or conditions of employment, or union membership because of race, creed, color or national origin," the order said. Should these requirements be placed in every contract, and there be an honest desire to carry them out there would be no cause whatever to complain especially from the colored citizens.

Chicago, Illinois

JUN 3 1943

RACES

Any Questions? Time

Executive Order 9346 says that all contracts with the U.S. Government must contain a clause forbidding discrimination against workers because of race, color, creed or national origin. Last month, Comptroller General Lindsay C. Warren said the order was merely a "directive." Last week Franklin Roosevelt straightened out all misunderstandings: "I . . . wish to make it perfectly clear that these provisions are mandatory."

NOV 13 1943

Surrender in Mobile

Pittsburgh Courier

JUN 19 1943

Segregation is an evil thing, contrary to the principles on which this nation was founded, and a mockery of all the fine phrases from scholars and politicians about the things for which we are professedly fighting this war.

Those who promote or condone or excuse segregation are not friends of America, of colored people, or of humanity generally.

Last week in Mobile, Ala., what has been called a compromise was effected whereby work in the shipyards, held up by recent racial troubles, was resumed.

This so-called compromise was a surrender to Negro segregation and therefore a defeat suffered by the United States.

Marvin Cox, regional director for the Office of War Information, rushed from Atlanta by plane and made public a plan for segregating Negro and white workers in the shipyard, which had been drawn up and submitted to various Federal bureaus for approval on May 28.

It is said that the segregated plan was suggested by Charles W. Hanson, CIO regional director, and drafted by Burton B. Morley, area director of the War Manpower Commision.

There are to be four jim-crow shipyards in which Negro labor will be used in the making of the bare hulls,

and white workers involved in the recent disturbances which resulted in 7,000 colored workers being ordered off their jobs by union officials.

The company officials had only to order the arrest of trouble-makers and then proceed with its upgrading without segregation or discrimination because of color.

The Federal Government had only to warn workers that whoever caused a disturbance and was discharged would be promptly drafted or prosecuted for interfering with the war effort.

These racial disturbances in Mobile, in Detroit, in St. Louis and other places have arisen solely because Federal officials have not let workers know in unmistakable terms that color discrimination and segregation will not be tolerated.

It is no solution to this problem to surrender to viciously reactionary formulae such as racial segregation as the slightest disturbance occurs.

Indeed, we have a suspicion that those in authority

and can obtain such jobs as shipfitters, welders, drillers, and so forth; but this will bar them from the highest-paid skilled work such as machine operating, pipefitting and electrical installation.

Here is proof again that segregation ALWAYS means discrimination.

The much-lauded compromise in which Government officials took such a prominent part is actually a surrender to the Nazi racial theory and another defeat for the principles embodied in the Declaration of Independence.

There was no necessity for this surrend by the Federal Government and the war contractor.

There were actually not more than a score of Negro

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re overly eager to make this compromise; much more so than they are to uphold the principles of democracy.

We think a word of praise is due Ralph B. Chandler, publisher of the Mobile Press and the Mobile Register, for editorially taking to task for merely placing under a $2,000 peace bond, two of the white workers charged with instigating the "riot."

Mr. Chandler courageously asserted that "These defendants were guilty of something or they were not guilty. If they were guilty of violating the law, they should have been given jail sentences. If they had violated no law, they should not have been haled into court."

The publisher has been served with a contempt citation by the judge in the case, but he is standing his ground.

One of the principal reasons why there is so much contempt for law and order in the South is the leniency of judges when white trouble-makers are brought before them in cases involving Negroes.

In this case, countless thousands of man-hours were lost because of a disturbance started by a handful of white workers, and the guilty should have been severely punished for thus retarding the nation's ship production.

Until the white people in control, locally and nationally, take a strong position on these matters and stop compromising with evil, we can expect no permanent elimination of this racial cancer gnawing at our national vitals.

JUN 19 1943

Racial Discrimination Condemned

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES:

I wish to express my wholehearted approval of Professor Konvitz' letter to you regarding the racial discrimination practiced by some labor unions. I hope that many a union member reading this letter will make it clear to himself and his fellow-members that they are upholding in our country the same foul "master-race" theory which we are fighting abroad.

It does not, however, seem fair to blame certain labor unions only. The same blame must fall on many employers. The practices "of exclusion and discrimination by segregation" are unfortunately quite common here in spite of the efforts of Federal and city authorities.

In many cases Negroes are either not employed at all or only in minor capacities, which means either outright discrimination or, at best, "segregated auxiliary status," as mentioned by Professor Konvitz regarding a number of unions.

New York, Sept. 29, 1943.

OCT 2 1943

New York Times

New York, N. Y.

Rail Job Discrimination Continues

Defender, Chicago, Illinois

Despite Manpower Shortage—OWI

WASHINGTON.—Although Negroes now hold many transportation jobs in which they have not previously been employed, discrimination against Negroes persists in many places, the Office of War Information reported this week on completion of a comprehensive survey of the transportation situation.

MAY 1 1943

Discussing the manpower problems of the transportation industry, the OWI declares:

"Negroes are filling increasing numbers of skilled and semi-skilled railroad jobs but, war or no war, unwillingness to employ Negroes in many types of railroad jobs persists.

"In some cities vehicles are lying idle due to lack of people to run them. Still, out of 227 local transportation companies — representing 86 per cent of total employment in the industry — only eight employ Negro operators. Women 'motorettes,' 'conductorettes,' and bus drivers are no longer a novelty in San Francisco, San Diego, Detroit, Columbus, Ga., and other cities."

The problems of dining car employes and sleeping car porters in the civilian transportation field are discussed at length in the report.

"Because of the inroads of selective service," the OWI declared, "many of the trained dining car employes have disappeared, and untrained substitutes replace them. Working long hours, on some days from 5:30 in the morning to 1 or 2 the next morning, they serve continuously.

"Formerly, if there were more than 100 persons on a train to be served, a second diner was added; now a single dining-car crew of 10 to 13 men may serve as many as 700 meals a day, with scarcely any let-up between what were once meal periods. This shortage of trained dining car help is far from being the only or most serious manpower shortage on the railroads, but it is the one that many travelers are most conscious of as they stand waiting for places at the table.

"Sleeping car porters are worn down by the great amounts of baggage they have to handle, by the constant making-up and breaking-down of berths necessitated by the usually more than complete 'top and bottom loads,' and by the lack of adequate rest between and during runs. With their traditional 'upper one' now almost always sold to travelers, they sleep instead on settees or sofas in the smoking cars.

"They are under orders to be particularly helpful to the large number of Americans now riding Pullman for the first time in their lives, and who have to be initiated into the mysteries of sleeping car travel. One thing that many new Pullman travelers don't seem to know is the fact that tipping is customary. 'We do our best to enlighten them on this point,' one sleeping car porter said. 'Tactfully, of course; we don't want to embarrass anybody. Sometimes what we say gets across and sometimes it doesn't.'

"About 1,000 sleeping car porters have been drafted, and about 2,500 new men have been hired during the past year to take their places and to handle the increased passenger load. Porters are paid time and a half for any work beyond 250 hours a month, and most of them are at present working overtime. This is a considerable change from before the war when the 250-hour limit was seldom reached.

"Nowadays even the new and extra men doing the untipped work on troop trains are making more money than the average porter made formerly with tips; but a considerable amount of illness and forced absence due to overfatigue is reported. Few sleeping car porters have left to enter war industries."

WMC Report Notes Industry's Reluctance to Drop Color Bars

Afro-American Baltimore, Maryland

NOV 27 1943

WASHINGTON

The failure of war industry to utilize colored manpower save to meet emergency needs was spotlighted this week in a report issued by the War Mampower Commission.

The report, while pointing to a slight general increase in colored employment in war production said that there is a serious time lag in use of colored workers among smaller firms and in occupational upgrading in all firms.

90 Per Cent in Unskilled Jobs

The overall two and five tenths per cent increase in the war employment of colored workers was overshadowed by the WMC's announcement that of every one hundreds placements of non-whites only ten are in skilled and semi-skilled jobs.

"The real problem," it was declared, "is to get employers to hire locally available and upgraded colored workers to meet all types of labor needs."

NOV 27 1943

Citing existing conditions in the textile industries near Spartanburg, S.C., as an example of the situation, the report pointed out that employers there are insisting that the Government build housing for white in-migrant workers while still refusing to employ locally available colored workers.

Jim Crow Practice

"This situation and many other similar situations," the report continued, "have not been met because the practice has been not to employ colored workers where serious opopsition has appeared."

Touching upon the use of colored workers in specific tight labor market areas, the report indicated that colored workers are being used in the South, with few exceptions, only in industries requiring workers to fill heavy skilled jobs.

"In NOV 27 1943 of these tight labor markets in the South has there developed a trend toward upgrading colored workers to new occupations, with the possible exception of one shipyard which has recently set up a segregated unit for colored workers following a race riot there."

In Northern Areas

In the Northern areas the picture disclosed was little brighter save in cases of scattered firms which had employed colored workers either voluntarily or at the insistence of the Colored Employment and Training Branch of the Office of Production Management early in the war effort.

Sanctions New

Baltimore, Md.

WMC Weapon

Afro-American

OCT 4 1943

WASHINGTON

A new WMC Manpower Commission order authorizes the regional U.S. Employment Service offices to take action against firms which discriminate in hiring workers. The U.S. is short 500,000 badly needed war workers.

From now on, a firm which rejects colored or Jewish workers whom the Employment Service sends may be

DEC 4 - 1943

1. Denied all "new" employees and old employees made available for hiring by employers who comply;
2. Refused priorities to purchase critical materials;
3. Denied relief in price ceilings applications;
4. Shut out from sale of products to any firm having a no discrimination war contract.

This action of WMC is announced following a WMC report that only a small number of colored workers have been placed in skilled and semi-skilled occupations.

DEC 4 1943

New York Acts

New York employment offices put the order into immediate effect, made arrangements to prevent lily-white employers turned down at one employment office from getting service at any other in the State.

Henry E. Treedy, WMC director of Region IV, said no steps to enforce sanctions mentioned above had been taken in his area. One WMC official says Treedy has the power to order enforcement. New York, he added, is in a more fortunate situation than D.C., because its State's civil rights law forbidding race discrimination.

Colored Workers Unused

Dr. William Haber, white, WMC national deputy director, said:

"There is no doubt that there is a considerable amount of colored labor which is not being utilized."

Questioned concerning the use of sanctions to force employment of colored workers in compliance with provisions of Executive Order 8802, he said this had been left to the judgment of regional War Manpower Commission directors.

"They have been advised of the national policy," he said, "and they have their labor management committees with which to confer. If they feel that they can secure compliance with 8802 through invoking of sanctions, they are free to do so."

OCT 4 1943

Other War Manpower sources estimated that there are approximately 1,000,000 colored workers now engaged in war industries. These workers are being used to less than half of their full capabilities.

Permits railroads to upgrade workers and thus Endangers

abrogation of safety rules such as

full train crews, etc. There is the harmful possibility that this practice will continue even after the

1,000,000 Engaged

Why Jim Crow Must Go

The Worker, New York, N. Y.

Editor, The Worker:

The manpower shortage on the

railroads [illegible] part war is over. 2) Permits railroads to upgrade their workers and thus endangers the safety of their sons by shocking policy. 3) Hinders the war effort. 4) Hinders political and other action to correct these and other bad conditions.

RAILROAD WORKER.

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Atlanta Ga. Journal
January 2. 1943

Equality of Opportunity

THE READING which maketh a full man brings to our attention every week the *C. I. O. News* on whose free list we occupy a distinguished position, receiving two copies of each issue.

The current number contains an arresting editorial on the subject, "The C. I. O. and Man Power." It is a discussion of the proposed mobilization of America's human resources for the prosecution of the war, and the views of Philip Murray, C. I. O. president, as revealed in his recent letter to Chairman McNutt, of the War Man Power Commission.

"Murray insists," says the *News*, with emphatic approval, "that employers be compelled to accept all available man power, without job discrimination against Negroes, women or any racial groups. Along with equality of opportunity for all workers must go the basic principle of equal pay for equal work."

Now as a Magna Carta or a Bill of Rights, that pronunciamento sounds pretty good, assuming, of course, that all human beings, male and female, work with equal skill, diligence, reliability and fidelity. If that were the fact, then management would have an easy task of personnel. There would be no reason to select John Doe rather than Richard Roe, or James Crow in preference to Jane Coe. Production would be simple; manufacture or fabrication, a gentle breeze. Unfortunately men differ in ability, in willingness and in stability. Therefore, if efficiency of manufacture is to be attained and maintained, there must be selective choice of workers, for the task.

The hollowness, however, of Mr. Murray's resounding proclamation that there must be "equal opportunity for all workers" may be exposed by one little question. He says "employers must be compelled to accept all available labor" without discrimination. Does he mean, we ask, that in his definition all available labor includes those who do not wear C. I. O. buttons or carry A. F. of L. cards? Does it include those who are not union members and who intend never to be union members?

If it does, then Mr. Murray has truly sounded a declaration of independence. written a bill of rights and promulgated a new Magna Carta. But we don't think he meant that. What Mr. Murray wants is "equality of opportunity" for C. I. O. members. The rest can go hang.

Newberry, S. C. Observer
January 8. 1943

Discrimination By the North

The curious side of a report on the "negro's place in American industry", written by John A. Davis for the "State's War Council on Discrimination in Employment", is its surprise that in the South negroes and white people may work together—as if they had not so worked from time immemorial. White and colored carpenters, plasterers, bricklayers, other artisans, are frequently observed laboring on the same building. The tone of an editorial in The New York Times is that Mr. Davis has made a discovery.

The report is that the negroes are 10 per cent of the American population and that "they are 20 per ceht of the unemployed."

They are not unemployed in the South when they are willing to work. In South Carolina a skilled negro artisan, or any other negro, can always find a job. In the South are virtually no willing workers among negroes unemployed.

In the last three or four decades, negroes have lost some of the trades to white men and women and it has been causd in part by Northern influence. Fifty years ago in Washington was a hotel that was the home of Southern congressmen; it had negro waiters. How many first rate hotels in Washington employ negro waiters now? How many in New York? In many Southern hotels negro waiters have been displaced by white people in the last quarter century. So, the white people have nearly taken over the barber's trade in the South. In these occupations the North displaced the negroes many years before the South imitated it.

In South Carolina one can see in a factory 600 or 800 workers and one in three is a negro. No one is objecting. No one has ever objected. All the workers in the factory, white and colored, are men.

The Southern textile industry presents another picture. Though not perceived at the time, it was born in and for separation of the races — we speak of the years of its stabilization and expansion between 1885 and 1905. To the cotton mills flocked poor white people from the farms. They were fleeing from the farm negroes' competition and standard of living. Within the mills only white people were employed, two-thirds of the workers being women, and the companies built villages for the workers. They are white people's villages. In the Southern textile mills will continue separation of the races or there will be trouble that only military force can suppress.

In the South are other industries in which racial separation will be maintained, and still in the South —now as always — is less discrimination against negro labor than in any other part of the United States.

The problem of the negro as a laborer receiving fair treatment has come to be Northern. The solution of it is plain, and The New York Times in common honesty and fairness to the negroes should help to solve it. Let the negro be received and treated without discrimination in the Northern and Western villages and farms — as they are treated in Southern villages and on Southern farms.

Once the negro shall be sure of a welcome in other than segragated colonies (the Harlems) and in heavy industries, myriads of them will leave the South.

In this age, they can migrate. Cheap transportation makes it as easy for them as for the white nomads. When they know that they will be employed in the corn fields, the wheat fields, of Iowa and Kansas, in the apple orchards of Oregon, as they are employed in the cotton and tobacco fields of South Carolina, they will move in droves to those states, to all the states, as they have moved in the last two decades to the Big Towns.

Once rural parts of Northern and Western states shall offer the negroes permanent homes and a livelihood, though they be as humble as most of their homes and livelihood are in the South, they will scatter throughout this land and no more will be a "Southern question."

This the North will not do — it has no more welcome for them now, except in Big Towns where they are valued at so much a head in election years, than when newspapers of Ohio in 1860 resented the coming to that state of "free persons of color" from Virginia. Mark, we are not censuring the North for its attitude: we under stand the feeling of the people who have the dairy farms in the Genesee Valley; the people in the Tonawands and the Canaans, of the neighborhoods in Wisconsin where the butter and cheese are made.

We are saying that such voices as The New York Times should drop this subject or do something about it. It should protest against the segragation of 8,500,000 negroes in a section of the country by the hard, cold process of exclusion. Or it should shut up, mind its business and let the South do the best it can with a condition which Northern people shun.

The negro in industry is not a Southern or sectional question in an age that has abolished distance.

The North practices negro segregation and discrimination on a scale unknown to Southern people, unsuspected by them. At the same time, its "Liberals" distract attention of Northern people from it by incessant fault-finding with the South — and this it has been doing since the Year of our Lord 1830.—News and Courier. Jan. 1.

MAY 9 1943

Chicago, Ill. Bee

LABOR'S RESPONSIBILITY TO NEGRO FREEDOM

Labor looks with pride upon the part of our government of the men who have left its ranks to steps it has thus far taken to build join the armed forces of our country, fighting this People's war for a People's Victory and a People's Peace. In this struggle, if we are to win the victory in the shortest time possible, it is necessary that the decisions of the Casablanca Conference for an all-out offensive on the continent of Europe be executed this year.

Yet there are ominous signs in the United States' participation in the war that must be brought to light and, if our campaign is to be effectual in every phase of winning a People's victory, must be brought into the glaring search-light of public scrutiny, and thereby, like the festering disease that it is, be rooted out of our national life. I speak of the continued and despicable practices of discrimination against the Negro citizens of our country.

Discrimination and segregation in our Army, against men in uniform of one color is a glaring example of the inadequacy on the

up as a sham the ideals for which America is fighting.

We of the trade union move- our International must bend ment, and particularly the Fur- ery effort to see that the anti- riers Union, where equality and Poll Tax bill is brought out of justice reign supreme and where committee immediately. Our unve have rooted out forever any ions must be loud in their conistinctions based on race, creed demnation against the destruction r color, must see in these anti- of FEPC.

egro forces, the Bilbos, the Dies To this end, one of the greatest nd many appeasers in the Ad- rallying points will be the Negro inistration itself, the same peo- Freedom Rally at Madison Square le identified with the attackers Garden on June 7, organized by t labor and its hard-gained rights, the People's Committee, the Nescratch an anti-Negro congress- gro Labor Victory Committee; toan and you find a Rickenbacker gether with every progressive a Hobbs supporter. Labor can trade union in New York City. ake no distinction in the fight Labor must bring to this rally r complete equality of the Ne- its entire membership. Not only o and the fight for the reten- is it necessary that every local on of its freedom, in order to of our International take tickets

Judge Hastie's he[illegible] exposure of the treatment of Negro men-

part of our government of the steps it has thus far taken to build its ranks to a real People's army. While the fight for equality and Poll Tax bill is brought out of committee immediately. Our unions must be loud in their condemnation against the destruction of FEPC.

To this end, one of the greatest rallying points will be the Negro Freedom Rally at Madison Square Garden on June 7, organized by the People's Committee, the Negro Labor Victory Committee; together with every progressive trade union in New York City. Labor must bring to this rally its entire membership. Not only is it necessary that every local of our International take tickets

MAY 1943

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DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

or make a donation toward the expenses, but we must help in bringing to this rally other unions which have not yet spoken out on the problems affecting the Negro people.

The Negro basically is for a People's victory, because they are freedom's people. Their background from the day they first landed in this country has been one of struggle toward that goal. Fascism at home and abroad must be crushed. Labor has a solemn duty. The hour of the fight for equality of mankind is the hour of the fight for Negro freedom. Negro people, labor and all others must forge iron-bound unity for that concept of a new world—for this we fight.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

'Shortage' of Labor Laid to Race Prejudice

APR 10 1943

WASHINGTON

"A major part of the manpower problem in America today is the unwillingness of employer and employee alike to accept the skills, actual and potential, which the colored worker has and willingly offers," Walter White, NAACP secretary, told the Senate Military Affairs Committee Thursday.

Mr. White was one of a group of representatives of colored organizations that told the Senate committtee that war industry has failed to utilize "huge man and womanpower pools" because of race prejudice, while it opposed as unnecessary the Austin-Wadsworth Bill to conscript labor.

Hit "Lynching," "Extortion"

"The manner and extent to which we have been extorted, relegated and frozen in the categories of underpaid domestics, agricultural and unskilled; intimidated, mobbed and lynched if we resented these encroachments will forever remain a blot on America and democracy as it is practiced here," Mr. White declared.

Mr. White and Morris Milgram, secretary of the Workers' Defense League, testified that discrimination both in war industry and government constitutes the greatest loss of manpower, adding that as a result there are more than an unemployed or under-employed colored workers in the U.S. today.

Strikes and walkouts have occurred in some war plants because colored workers were hired or promoted, Mr. White said, adding that private industries and large corporations in many Southern States "hold colored workers in a state of peonage."

Colored Workers Must Take Sides In Present Fight

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

COLORED workers are at the crossroads!

JUN 2 1943

Colored Americans are at the crossroads. They must make a decision which will affect the future progress of almost every colored person now living and those about to be born.

They must decide whether they will support organized labor or employers in their struggle for control of the affairs of America. They must determine which crowd they are with. There are obvious signs which indicate that these two opposing forces are in a fight which will not end until one or the other has gained absolute ascendancy.

It is perhaps accurate to say that there is no large group of middle class colored Americans. There are a few at the top and great crowds on the bottom, but the gap between is too weak to support the top or raise the bottom.

Today there are only a few colored people who are unable to secure employment of some kind. Therefore, the immediate problem is not simply the securing of employment, but for colored workers to be upgraded in industry according to their respective abilities. It is, therefore, as clear as daylight that the solution of that problem is most paramount.

The evidence shows that both capital and labor have been guilty as sin against the rights of colored people to work. Flippantly colored citizens well might say, "A plague on both your houses". But that position would get them nowhere. No group can win advancement by standing on the sidelines. They must take sides, get in the battle and fight.

A multitude of examples could be given to show that labor unions have been hostile toward colored workers. An equal number could be cited to prove that capital has exploited colored workers. But it is not important at the moment to discuss which of these two classes has been the more flagrant violator of the rights of colored people to work. The important question now is which group offers the better advantages to colored people to secure for themselves equality of opportunity in the life of the nation.

JUN 12 1943

Since colored people largely belong to that class of Americans who toil with their hands, commonsense dictates that their lot should be cast with those of that group. These two working for the mutual good of each would improve the common lot of all.

McNUTT CANNOT FIND RATIONAL SOLUTION TO USE OF NEGRO WORKERS

MANPOWER
Pittsburgh Courier
BY HORACE R. CAYTON

McNUTT is still in a jam about his Negro labor pool. It is not that Negroes are not working. Unemployment for Negroes is lower than it has been for many years. The trouble is that they are employed in many instances, in work which is not essential to the war effort. McNutt's 'work or fight' slogan cannot be made very meaningful as far as Negroes are concerned when force is applied to only one segment of the manpower. McNutt himself cannot put them to work (in essential industry) and then ... has a hard time getting them jobs as fighters.

Whether or not it was his fault McNutt had to shoulder the blame for the failure of the Fair Employment Practices Committee. Since then, in spite of a conference of Negro leaders, no satisfactory method has been worked out for integrating Negroes into essential war industry. That this has not been done is borne out by a statement which was recently made by an official of the FEPC to the effect that Negroes are granted occupational deferments by the Selective System.

It is almost as hard to get rid of the unwanted manpower in the Army. McNutt's plan to put a proportionate percentage of Negroes in the Army met with a much lack of enthusiasm from the Army as it did from many Negroes. The fact is that apparent-ly the Army now has more Negroes than it is using effectively. The other branches of the armed services from membership and (6) to take advantage of all training courses available, and to report instances of discrimination to agencies both public and private designed to combat the evil.

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Davis said he still found as was found in last year's report that most Negro men could secure jobs as porters and laborers in both essential and non-essential jobs. Women likewise were grossly discriminated against in that they usually received the lowest paying jobs, most of them in menial capacities. Interest was found to be low war training courses offered by companies and other agencies. The picture in restaurants, stores, hotels and kindred [illegible] a little brighter [illegible] cial

Princeton Negroes are barred

Atlanta, Georgia
Daily World

League Official Finds Bars Hurt War Effort

SEP 7 1943

Against Women Workers Says Bias Hurts War Effort And Helps The Enemy

SEP 7 1943

BROOKLYN—(ANP)—A strong

MARCH

Mr. Cayton

SOUTH FEARS RACE WORKERS

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The evidence shows that both capital and labor have been guilty as sin against the rights of colored people to work. Flippantly colored citizens well might say, "A plague on both your houses". But that position would get them nowhere. No group can win advancement by standing on the sidelines. They must take sides, get in the battle and fight.

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SEP 7 1943

The report, prepared by Lorenzo Davis, industrial secretary, stated that

have proven beyond the shadow of a doubt the harmonious integration of Negroes, and especially workers, into America's war-time economy is the most deliberate and yet urgent problem facing the country at this time." Through democratic action to integrate Negroes into government, industry, unions, agencies, a "most serious threat to national unity can be converted to a most powerful moral asset in defeating the axis enemy without, as well as our enemies of true democracy boring from within."

Davis said he still found as was found last year's report that the fact in both essential and non-essential jobs. Women likewise were grossly discriminated against in the matter of training, that the lowest usually received the most menial paying jobs, most of them in domestic capacities. Interest was found to be low war training courses offered by companies and other agencies. The picture in stores, hotels and restaurants, a little kindred brighter, when

Principally, Negroes are barred from industry because (1) of unfederal and other employment agencies to insure employment of Negroes at their highest skilled (3) barring of Negro women from clerical positions in factory offices (4) tendencies on the part of employers to discharge Negroes at the slightest complaint (5) and of employment agencies unfriendly to biased labor unions that bar Negroes. Workers were also urged to take advantage of all training courses available, and to report instances from membership and

The report urged that workers press for their rights but that they do so by cooperating with progressive forces organized labor.

democratic

MANPOWER

Pittsburgh Courier
BY HORACE R. CAYTON

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Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

League Official Finds Bars Fight Against

SEP 7 1943

Says Bias Hurts War Effort And Helps The Enemy

SEP 7 1943

BROOKLYN—(ANP)—A strong

35c-1943
Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

HOUSE OF LABOR

CIO'S REFUSAL TO FINANCE COMMITTEE ON DISCRIMINATION RAISES QUESTION OF SINCERITY

BY HORACE R. CAYTON

FEB 20 1943

FOR FIVE YEARS each annual convention of the CIO has gone on record opposing racial discrimination. Typical of these declarations was the resolution passed at the second constitution convention in San Francisco in 1939. The resolution on the "Unity of the Negro and White Workers" read as follows:

"Whereas, Employers constantly seek to slip one group of workers from another, and thus to deprive them of their full economic strength, by arousing prejudices based on race, creed, color or nationality, and one of the most frequent weapons used by employers to accomplish this end is to create false conflicts between Negro and white workers; now, therefore be it



Mr. Cayton

Resolved, that the CIO hereby pledges itself to uncompromising opposition to any form of discrimination, whether political or economic, based upon race, color, creed, or nationality."

DELEGATES WANTED PRACTICAL ACTION

Each year these resolutions were passed but no machinery was established to see that they were carried out. Possibly sensing a determination on the part of the rank and file Negro and white membership for action and further motivated by the election of Willard S. Townsend to its membership, the executive board of the CIO, a few months before its last convention in Boston, appointed a special committee to draw up a program to deal with the question of discrimination. This proved to be a prophetic step as when the usual resolution condemning discrimination was introduced on the convention floor there was a minor revolt and a demand for action which was only controlled by the fact that President Murray was able to announce the existence of this Anti-Discrimination Committee.

TO indicate the extent of the feelings on the part of delegates that concrete action was necessary let me give you a few examples of what they had to say:

JOHN YANCEY, United Transport Workers.

"This resolution . . . does not do the job . . . it appears that it merely asks for reiteration of the policies of the CIO . . . we ought to get away from platitudes . . . and put in some real and practical action."

FERDINAND SMITH, National Maritime Union.

"I agree . . . the resolution should be strengthened. I spoke on a similar resolution a year ago in Detroit and at that time I pleaded with you that this resolution should not remain a mere resolution but should be implemented . . ."

WALTER RUETHER, United Automobile Workers.

"I made this suggestion that this convention could translate into practical machinery simple methods by which we could go back home and make the idea embodied in the resolution, seep down until every CIO member among the 5 million members understands it and carries it out in the work shops and in the factories where it counts."

In answer to these statements President Murray said:

"I might say for the information of Delegate Yancey that the report of the Resolutions Committee implements the resolution adopted by the Executive Board of the CIO. The Executive Board's resolution which was widely publicized and addressed to all of our International Unions, deals in greater detail with all acts of racial and other kinds of discrimination. The report of the committee is an implementation of the work of the Executive Board, and the resolution of the Executive Board, still stands as the policy of the organization with reference to the administration of these racial discriminations."

CAREY REJECTS FUND REQUEST

Recently as reported in this column the Anti-Discrimination Committee met. At this meeting, James B. Carey, secretary of the CIO and member of the committee, refused to entertain the request for five thousand dollars a year to carry on this important task directly affecting the lives of five hundred thousand Negro CIO members and indirectly the entire membership of five million.

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ONE excuse given was that no program had been outlined although according to Murray the committee has been working for the past seven or eight months. Is it possible that such brilliant labor leaders as Willard S. Townsend, Ferdinand Smith and Boyd Wilson, all members of the committee, were unable to devise a plan of action? Why did they not vote James B. Carey down and present the demands of the committee directly to the executive board? Why has not the executive board of the CIO clarified to this special committee the role and function it expects it to play?

IS MR. MURRAY SINCERE?

These are just a few questions I would like answered by Mr. Murray and the members of the committee. It was very fine for the CIO to condemn the administration for the liquidation of the Fair Employment Practices Committee. It does not however make Mr. Murray look very sincere in view of his own remarks and the mandate handed to him by the convention to refuse a committee to clean from the House of Labor the discriminations which still exist.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Negro Rally at Garden to Push Victory Program

APR 9 1943

A demand for a "two fisted wa at home and abroad," affirming th right of every American to full par ticipation in United Nations victory condemning discrimination against 15,000,000 Negro Americans, will be heard at a tremendous rally in Madison Square Garden, June 7.

Sponsored by civic leaders, trade unionists, legislators, clergymen and a wide group of social organizations, the meeting is initiated by the People's Committee and the Negro Labor Victory Committee and its statement urges the national administration to "get the Four Freedoms into practice" in the United States.

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William Green, AFL president, and Philip Murray, CIO president, have been invited to address the meeting. A pageant depicting the struggles of the Negro in America will be presented.

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The statement of the sponsors says in part:

We condemn the shameful practices of discrimination against 15,000,000 Negro Americans as a violation of their just, democratic rights, as an aid to Hitler, as a deadly obstacle to the invincible unity which alone can lead to victory. We recognize in the anti-Negro forces the same vicious elements which would destroy labor's gains and thereby make impotent one of the most vital forces for victory. Trade unions and the Negro people join hands in their determined fight to take their rightful place in the victory program of our country.

"If our country is to be the example to millions of colonial peoples now yoked with oppression, and also denied equal participation in this peoples war, it must put these four freedoms in practice in the United States as a guarantee of freedom for these millions.

"Discrimination in employment is treason against the United Nations' cause. The continuation of segregation and the denial of the right to democratic participation in the government in the way of poll tax is worth more to Hitler than many divisions of an army.

"We pledge our unstinted support to the cause of the United Nations for victory, and to our Commander-in-Chief. We call upon all freedom-loving people in our country to join in this mighty demonstration of solidarity of the Negro people at Madison Square Garden, June 7th.

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A partial list of sponsors includes:

William T. Andrews, **Assemblyman.**
James Alston, **Amalgamated Meat Cutters, AFL.**
Thomas Astwood, **Cafeteria Employes Union, AFL.**
William Bassette, **Cooks Union, AFL.**
Al Bamknopf, **Wholesale and Warehouse Workers Union, CIO.**
George Brown, **Hotel and Restaurant Employes International Alliance, AFL.**
Ruth May Bushong, **United Office and Professional Workers Union, CIO.**
Alice Citron, **Teachers Union.**

LABOR UNITY

BY HORACE R. CAYTON

Demands Full Integration of Negro Workers in Both Unions As Price of Unity

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

THIS column has stated on numerous occasions that, even though a good thing for the labor movement in general, it might not be for Negro workers. The gains which Negroes have made in the labor movement in the past few years have resulted in labor's ranks which created the CIO. Any move toward amalgamation of the AFL and the CIO should be watched carefully to see that the foothold which Negroes have obtained is not jeopardized.

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It is not that I think that there is any likelihood of any organic unity between the two in the near future. The President is attempting to perform a shot-gun marriage, but both parties are unwilling; and it will be months — maybe years — before they actually get together. However, eventually some basis for unity will be worked out. In view of this possibility, Negro laborers had better be aware of where they will stand when the deal is made.

MURRAY REASSURES NEGRO WORKERS

One reassuring statement was that of President Philip Murray before the convention of the United Automobile Workers, which was the first time he made a statement which gave Negroes to believe that the CIO would not only maintain but is far from progressive. Harry



Mr. Cayton

OF EXTREME importance to this whole question is the character of the members of the Executive committee. If, as is to be debated, their attitude on the race issue will determine what sort of deal black laborers will get.

AFL MEMBERS REACTIONARY

The three members representing the CIO are Philip Murray, president of the CIO and president of the United Steel workers; R. J. Thomas, president of the United Automobile workers, and Julius Emspak, secretary-treasurer of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine workers. These men represent unions in which are to be found a high percentage of Negro members. In steel and automobile there are 25 per cent of all organized Negro labor. All three of the men are officials of unions which have taken extremely progressive stands on the race issue.

ON THE other side of the ledger, things don't look so good. Daniel Tobin, president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, and one of the real powers in the AFL, permits Negroes in his union only in their negotiations for

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integration of Negro workers throughout both bodies of

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Charles Collins, Hotel and Club Employes Union, AFL.
Carl Dennis, Hotel and Club Employes Union, AFL.
Joseph Curran, National Maritime Union, CIO.
Dr. Bella Dodd, Teachers Union.
Abram Flaxer, State, County and Municipal Workers Union, CIO.
Joseph Ford, Peoples Committee.
Dorothy Funn, Negro Labor Victory Committee.
Leila Gaulden, Nurses Union, CIO.
Daisy George, Hotel and Club Employes Union, AFL.
Eleanor Goding, State, County and Municipal Workers, CIO.
John Goodman, Hotel Front Service Employes Union, AFL.
Solomon Harper, Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians, CIO.
Rev. William T. Harten, Holy Trinity Baptist Church, Brooklyn.
Lynden Henry, International Fur and Leather Workers Union, CIO.
T. A. Jackson, Dining Car Employes Union, AFL.
Hulan Jack, Assemblyman.
Veiola Jones, State, County and Municipal Workers Union, CIO.
Conrad Kaye, Amalgamated Meat Cutters Union, AFL.
Clifford T. McEvoy, Greater New York Industrial Council, CIO.
Malcolm Martin, State, County and Municipal Workers, CIO.
Saul Mills, Greater New York Industrial Union Council, CIO.
Winifred Norman, National Conference of Negro Youth.
Michael J. Obermeier, Hotel and Club Employes Union, AFL.
Samuel Patterson, International Workers Order.
A. Clayton Powell, Jr., City Councilman.
Emil Ramirez, Cooks Union, AFL.
Adolph Rosenbloom, Barber and Beauty Culturists Union, CIO.
Alex Sirota, United Furniture Workers of America, CIO.
Ferdinand C. Smith, National Maritime Union, CIO.
Samuel Sorkin, State, County and Municipal Workers Union, CIO.
Charlotte Stern, Hotel and Club Workers Union, AFL.
Hope R. Stevens, Attorney.
Roger Straughn, Harlem Labor Union.
H. B. Warner, National Maritime Union, CIO.
Larry Washington, Fur Dressers and Dyers Union, CIO.
Amy White, United Wholesale and Warehouse Union, CIO.
Nathan Witt, Attorney.
Max Yergan, Council on African Affairs.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

APR 9 1943

Labor Act No Help To Strikers

MAY 8 1943

Ruling Made By NLRB Trial Examiner

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The National Labor Relations Act affords no protection to employees who strike or threaten to strike, over the employment or upgrading of Negro workers in industrial plants, an NLRB trial examiner ruled last week in a recommendation to the National Labor Relations Board.

The ruling, first NLRB recommendation involving racial discrimination in war plants, was made by Trial Examiner William B. Barton in the case of the Glamorgan Pipe and Foundry Company of Lynchburg, Va., and the United Steelworkers of America, CIO.

MAY 8 1943

UNION MAKES CHARGES

The point was raised in a hearing before Mr. Barton on the cases of Elzie H. Williams and Anthony F. Lloyd, two of five employees of the foundry company whom the union charged were fired for joining or assisting the C. I. O. "in concerted activities for the purpose of collective bargaining or other mutual aid or protection."

MAY 8 1943

The company charged, however, that Williams and Lloyd were discharged on April 16, 1942, because they had protested against the employment of a Negro as a crane operator and had threatened to call a strike in the plant.

In upholding the company's contention on this point, the trial examiner ruled:

"As found above, the reason these employees (Williams and Lloyd) protested to the respondent and discussed going on strike was because the respondent had assigned a colored employee to the position of crane operator.

STRIKE DESIGNS

MAY 8 1943

"Although Section 7 of the Act protects employees' concerted activities which have 'the purpose of collective bargaining or other mutual aid or protection,' such protection does not extend to concerted activities directed to other purposes. The protest of Williams and Lloyd if successful, would have resulted in racial discrimination rather than in 'collective bargaining or other mutual aid or protection.' The undersigned is persuaded and finds that their strike designs were not of such a nature as to come within the meaning and protection of the Act.

MAY

"Since Williams' and Lloyds' conduct was of a type for which the Act affords no protection, the respondent was within its rights in exercising disciplinary measures against these employees for their conduct."

MAY 8 1943

Testimony before the examiner had indicated that Williams and Lloyd had protested to management when Otey Tucker, a colored employee, had been assigned to work as a crane operator in the place of a white worker discharged the previous day for intoxication. Although the two men testified that they had opposed Tucker's employment solely because they wanted to make overtime by leaving the crane idle, the examiner ruled against them after it was pointed out that Lloyd and Williams had attempted to have another white man assigned to the crane.

WILLIAMS NOT REINSTATED

On April 2, 1942, Asby Wright, another white crane operator, was laid off for 10 days for striking the Negro crane operator when he was sent to relieve him on the machine. The strike threat developed after the Wright-Tucker incident. Following his dismissal on April 16, 1942, Lloyd was allowed to resume employment on April 26. The company refused, however, to reinstate Williams.

Although the examiner ruled against Williams and Lloyd in the case involving the strike threat, he found, from other incidents and testimony, that the company had discouraged membership in the United Steelworkers of America and had discriminated against Williams because of other union activities.

1943

look far and wide among the examples of twisted logic to find the equal of some of the opinions this board, in its studied policy of denying Negroes the protection of the Railway Labor Act, have issued.

RAILROAD UNIONS RECOGNIZED

MAY 1 1943

This board has consistently recognized the railroad unions which refuse to admit Negroes to membership; but, these selfsame unions claim the right to bargain for Negroes, and the Mediation Board has aided and abetted this practice.

MAY 1 1943

It is interesting to note that the National Mediation Board was unfriendly to the United Transport Service Employees and still is. On November 26, 1940 the board dismissed the UTSEA petition for certification to represent the red caps at St. Paul and awarded the collective bargaining rights to the Brotherhood of Clerks (which have a constitutional clause only admitting "white Americans" to membership).

MAY 1 1943

The UTSEA protested this decision before the District Court in Washington, D. C., and on the 6th of July, 1942, the court set aside the Mediation Board's ruling and issued an order that the UTSEA be certified forthwith.

Again in the case of track laborers on the Florida East Coast Railroad, where the UTSEA found a condition as vicious as any known to organized labor, and in violation of the Railway Labor Act, the railroad company had negotiated an agreement for the white employees and excluded the Negroes; yet when the UTSEA attempted to become the certified representative of these men the National Mediation Board, through its mediator, aided and abetted in terrorizing the Negro employees, resulting in the loss of the election.

SAME TREATMENT FOR OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

The other labor organizations in the railway field who are representing Negro employees, have experienced substantially the same disregard of the intent of the Railway Labor Act, and disregard for fair and impartial judicial reasoning.

The great difference between the UTSEA and these several other organizations is, the UTSEA insists on airing these starchamber decisions in the Federal Courts. The National Mediation Board cannot forgive this rank heterdoxy.

MAY 1 1943

Their indignation and fear has reached the point where their chairman, George A. Cook, wrote a letter to the president of the CIO, Philip Murray, in effect asking that the UTSEA be stopped from disturbing labor unity. Mr. Cook asked that the attempt to organize the unprotected workers in the railway industry be curtailed. In effect he is asking the CIO to endorse the vicious practice of the Railway Brotherhoods.

Discrimination And Railway Labor Act

MAY 1 1943

By WILLARD S. TOWNSEND

A few weeks ago witnessed the attempt to eliminate the Fair Employment Practices Committee; this was followed by the Congressional attack on Dean Pickens; and now the attack is upon the Negro railway worker. The following events presage the opening gun in this latest attack.



Mr. Townsend

The "Railway Labor Act" of 1926 made it mandatory upon the railroads and the employees to exert every reasonable effort to maintain agreements through representatives freely chosen by each party. A board for the purpose of mediation of disputes was also established. This act was amended in 1934, but its essential principles remain unchanged.

This board, despite the clear language of the act, immediately exhibited an open Anti-Negro policy. One may

Up To The Front

By NEIL SCOTT

MAY 8 1943

Patterns of Jim Crow hold true to form in labor as they do in other segments of American life. With the exception of A. Phillip Randolph, William Townsend and Ferdinand Smith, Negroes in the labor movement have not achieved "top positions." It is significant to note that Randolph and Townsend are heads of all-colored unions, leaving Ferdinand Smith as the only Negro occupying a national office in a mixed union. It is a credit to the liberal trend of thought within CIO that Negroes should be given positions of such prominence. Of course, Townsend is a member of



DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82
TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE

35c-1943
Amsterdam Star-News
New York. N. Y.

MAPS CAMPAIGN AGAINST BIAS

FEB 13 1943

Interracial Club Names Offenders

Thomas L. Brown, president of the Interracial Club 60 W. 125th St., declared in a statement that "The recent order of the War Manpower Commission directing the male population to work in war industry or be drafted into the army hits Negroes and, particularly, Negro father of families doubly hard, exposing anew the terrible viciousness of racial discrimination in America."

"The Negro father is told to get in war industry or else be faced with the prospect of leaving his family. He tries to get in industry, BUT INDUSTRY WON'T TAKE HIM BECAUSE HE IS A NEGRO! The white father stands a chance; the Negro has none. The Negro has got to put up an organized fight for equality in jobs now."

FEB 13 1943

Seven war plants alleged to be practicing bias against Negroes according to information compiled by Dr. Lorenzo F. Davis, Industrial Director of the Brooklyn Urban League, are receiving communications this week from the Interracial Club with references to their employment practices. They are the Metropolitan Engineering Company, Brooklyn; E. W. Bliss Corporation, Brooklyn; Ranger Aircraft Engineering, Jamaica; Eastern Radium Dial Corporation, New ork City; Davis and Geck, Brooklyn; Hammarlund Corporation, New York City; General Bronze Corporation, Long Island City.

General

Senate Committee Hears Walter White:

Why Compulsory Labor Draft When Negro Manpower Is Going to Waste—Shackled by American Jimcro?

The Peoples Voice New York N.Y.

APR 10 1943

WASHINGTON—In plain and unmistakable language, Walter White, NAACP secretary, told the Senate Military Affairs Committee last week that Congress should turn its attention to racial discriminations which are preventing maximum use of available manpower before considering compulsory assignment of workers to war industry. He was testifying against the Austin-Wadsworth bill which provides for "the successful prosecution of the war through a system of civil selective war service."

In referring to local transportation situation, White cited inability of Negroes to get jobs as streetcar and bus operators. He said the Capital Transit Co. has "half-heartedly" agreed to employ Negroes, but he charged that white operators refused to give practical experience to a Negro who was accepted.

APR 10 1943

FALSE ASSUMPTION

White pointed out that the bill is based on a false assumption, for there still exists a huge reservoir of voluntary man and womanpower which has not yet been utilized because of racial prejudice. He cited the bill's failure to compel employers to accept all workers who volunteer or are drafted regardless of the worker's race or color as one of its most glaring faults. White added that the bill contains no adequate safeguards to protect workers from arbitrary action by employers or local draft boards.

APR 10 1943

OTHERS PROTEST BILL

Morris Milbram, national secretary of the Worker's Defense League, also complained of racial discrimination in essential industries in opposing the Austin-Wadsworth Bill. and accused War Manpower Chairman Paul V. McNutt of "lack of courage" in dealing with these issues.

Supplementing White's testimony, Charles H. Houston of the National Non-Partisan Council also favored continuation of the voluntary approach to the manpower problem. As a veteran of the last war, he said that, so far as theory is concerned, he favors equalization of burdens, but "laws are not self-enforcing," so his reason for opposing a compulsory law is that "we have no assurance the Federal Government would carry it out impartially."

APR 10 1943

Edgar G. Brown of the National Negro Council said he favored bringing to Congress, rather than nothing less than government approved peonage.

APR 10 1943

"What chance would a qualified Negro machinist living in Mississippi have if he appealed the decision of his draft board denying his application to go to Detroit to work in an airplane factory when such board had previously classified him to work as a common field hand? I believe the answer is obvious."

APR 10 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Men Who Strike Against Negroes To Lose Benefits

Ruling Seen As New Weapon Against Jimcrow

MAY 4 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—The National Labor Relations Act affords no protection to employees who strike, or threaten to strike, over the employment or ungrading of Negro workers in industrial plants, an NLRB trial examiner ruled this week in a recommendation to the National Labor Relations Board.

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MAY 4 1943

PROTESTED NEGRO

The point was raised in a hearing before Mr. Barton on the cases of Elizie H. Williams and Anthony F. Lloyd, two of five employees of the foundry company whom the union charged were fired for joining or assisting the CIO "in concerted activities for the purpose of collective bargaining or other mutual aid or protection."

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MAY 4 1943

"As found above, the reason these employees (Williams and Lloyd) protested to the respondent and discussed going on strike was because the respondent has assigned a colored employee to the position of crane operator.

NOT PROTECTED

"Although Section 7 of the Act protects employees' concerted activities which have 'the purpose of collective bargaining or other mutual aid or protection,' such protection does not extend to concerted activities directed to other purposes. The protest by Williams and Lloyd, successful, would have resulted in racial discrimination rather than in 'collective bargaining or other mutual aid or protection.' The undersigned is persuaded and finds that their strike designs were not of such a nature as to come within the meaning and protection of the Act.

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MAY 4 1943

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NEGRO WORKER HIT

On April 2, 1942, Asby Wright, ever, to reinstate Williams. Although the examiner ruled to the ruling within 15 days and Williams and Lloyd in the Board will then issue its deinvolving the strike cision and order in the case. he found, from other in- and testimony, that had discouraged member- the United Steelworkers erica and had discriminated Williams because of other activities. parties may take exception

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
February 25, 1943

Not For The State

A bill has been introduced in the Georgia Legislature which would grant the governor broad powers to conscript labor. The bill is aimed at putting all Georgia's manpower to work. Thus its aim is good, its objective desirable.

This is the business of the people of Georgia and their representatives. But, beyond this, such a move is important, since it is indicative of the great desire of people to do all they can in the war.

We question the desirability of such a law. Granted that Gov. Arnall would not abuse such powers, still our situation in the South is one which demands a more varied solution than this. For instance, we have men who may not be working but who want work and cannot get it. The United States Employment Service is not able to place all applicants. It is unwise, as an example, to attempt enforced labor when so many of our Negro people are unable to obtain productive war jobs. As long as many Negroes must hang about on the fringes of the war effort, we may expect that, from time to time, some of them will be unemployed.

If we in this region are interested in providing more manpower to help the war effort, let us be more energetic about training and placing people who are known to be willing and eager to work, instead of concentrating effort on those who may be habitual loiterers.

It needs to be repeated frequently that getting men—all men—to work is not just simply a process of ordering them to go to work. They must be trained. And when they are trained, there must be places open for them, so that they can utilize their skills.

We don't doubt but what there are loiterers in the many cities and towns of our region. But many men are being wasted when they are allowed to work on jobs which are relatively unproductive when, through training and better employment, they could be helping in the war effort.

Gadsden, Ala., Times
April 2, 1943

Labor Plentiful Negroes Insist

Senators Told Race Prejudice Hindering Wartime Employment

WASHINGTON, April 2.—(AP)—Representatives of Negro organizations told the Senate Military Committee Thursday that war industry has failed to utilize "huge man womanpower pools" because of race prejudice.

Opposing as unnecessary the Austin-Wadeworth bill to conscript labor for war work, Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the advancement of Colored People, and Morris Milgram, national secretary of the Workers Defense League, testified that discrimination both in war industry and government constitutes the greatest loss of manpower.

"The manner and extent to which we have been extorted, relegated and frozen in the categories of underpaid domestics, agricultural and unskilled workers; intimidated, mobbed and lynched if we resented those encroachments on our fundamental rights," White said, "will forever remain a blot on America and democracy as it is practiced here."

White said that six months after a presidential order outlawing discrimination against Negro workers, a United States employment service survey disclosed that 51 per cent of war industries said "they did not and would not employ Negro workers."

"The result," he added, "is that there are more than 1,000,000 unemployed or under-employed Negroes today in the United States."

White said strikes and walkouts had occured at some war plants because Negroes were hired or promoted. Some private industries and large corporations in many Southern states, he testified, "hold Negroes in a state of peonage."

"A major part of the manpower problem in America today," White contended, "is the unwillingness of employer and employe alike to accept the skills, actual or potential, which the Negro has and willingly offers.

"With that problem unsolved I would not trust any man, Negro or white, with such sweeping powers as this bill confers. It virtually amounts to dictatorship."

Jim-Crowism Causes Manpower Shortage in Transportation System

The Call, Kansas City, Mo.
The Call

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Laying it on the line in plain English, an Office of War Information survey of the nation's transportation situation puts heavy stress upon the discrimination against Negro workers by the railroad companies and railway unions in their failure to come up with sufficient manpower to meet increased travel and shipping demands.

APR 30 1943

The report, made public Sunday night, declares that "the manpower shortage is serious and may get worse." And although women and Negroes now hold many jobs in which they have not previously been employed in transportation "war or no war, discrimination against Negroes persists in many places."

APR 30 1943

War Manpower Chief Paul V. McNutt announced three weeks ago that the twice postponed hearings into the railway industry's discriminatory policy with regard to Negroes would be rescheduled by the Fair Employment Practice committee.

FATIGUE CAUSES ILLNESS

APR 30 1943

Long hours are being put in by dining car waiters who serve as many as 700 meals a day with scarcely any let-up between what were once meal periods, the report says.

About 1,000 sleeping car porters have been drafted, and about 2,500 new men have been hired during the past year to take their places. Porters are being paid time and a half for any work beyond 250 hours a month, and most of them are at present working overtime.

This, the report says, is causing a "considerable" amount of illness and forced absence due to fatigue.

APR 30 1943

With regard to local surface transportation, now much in dispute in Washington and Baltimore, the report has this to say: "At the beginning of the year the industry was short 1,919 vehicle operators, 121 mechanics, and 99 street-car inspectors and repairmen.

In some cities vehicles are lying idle due to lack of people to run them. Still, out of 227 local transportation companies — representing 86 per cent of total employment in the industry — only eight employ Negro operators."

APR 30 1943

CAB-SHARING ENCOURAGED

"Cab-sharing is encouraged by the Office of Defense Transportation but still forbidden by statute in many communities and unpracticed in others on racial grounds or because of public indifference," the report says.

APR 30 1943

The report complains that draft boards have been "on the whole less disposed to grant deferments to transport workers than to men in production, although transportation has been classified by WMC, as essential."

APR 30 1943

Discussing railway unions, the report comments: "Now in a period of manpower shortage, they are reexamining some of the rules and practices developed through collective bargaining."

APR 30 1943

Further: "Rules which are wasteful of manpower or transportation equipment have not been wholly eliminated. Although the national offices of the transportation labor organizations have uniformly shown an understanding of the nature of the war, the memberships have on some occasions insisted upon "unionism as usual'."

APR 30 1943

Among the organizations cooperating with the OWI were the Dining Car Employees' union, United Transport Service Employes' of America, and the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

APR 30 1943

Job Committee Denies Communistic Affiliation

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Taking cognizance of repeated rumors to the effect that it is a 'communistic" organization, the Committee On Jobs For Negroes In Public Utilities today republished and reaffirmed its broadly representative composition and aims.

According to the committee's statement, issued by the Steering Committee, the Jobs Committee is a federation of approximately five dozen fraternal, religious, trade union, civic and other groups.

One of the affiliates is the Frederick Douglass Branch of the Communist Party of the District of Columbia. There are also approximately 200 individual members.

The following telegram was sent to President Roosevelt today by the Committee on Jobs for Negroes in Public Utilities urging that he veto the Smith-Connally anti-labor bill in the interest of national unity:

"We urge prompt veto of the Smith-Connally Bill to prevent the unrest which would packed mixed audience at the Central Y. M. C. A. Dr. Krueger, University of Chicago professor, is vice-chairman of the Chicago Conference on Racial and Religious Discrimination.

Another speaker at the session was Sam Sponseller, national chairman of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing committee CIO declared that the Detroit race riots would have been much worse had it not been for the CIO's championing of race equality."

Chicago, Ill. AUG 1943

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

SAYS INDUSTRY LOSES 20 BILLION YEARLY DUE TO JIM CROW

Chicago (ANP)—Occupational discrimination against Negroes costs the nation's industries between $15,000,000,000 and $20,000,000,000 yearly, Dr. Maynard Krueger charged Thursday night.

The occasion was the third session of the Institute on Racial Minorities

35c-1943

General

Telephone Companies' Refusal to Hire Colored Is Nation-wide

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

U.S. Biggest Public Utility Hasn't Single Colored Telephone Girl; Defies FEPC, 'Brushes Off' Reporters

By RICHARD DIER

(The Southwestern Bell Telephone company in Kansas City, Mo., refused to sign a government contract agreeing to employ colored workers without discrimination. Colored people have also been refused positions as operators in other cities. New York, a liberal city, was chosen by the AFRO, therefore, for a survey of the telephone company there.—ED.)

NEW YORK—If you're ever asked to name one of the biggest companies in New York which practices the most vicious jim-crow policy and you pick the New York Telephone Company, you won't be far wrong.

This great public utility is showing complete disregard of the principles for which we're fighting and brazenly continues with its discriminatory hiring policies.

To cover up, company officials have pulled the wool over the eyes of social workers and even of colored reporters by giving vague answers, acting cordial and receptive, and by never committing themselves to any definite policy.

For instance, the following answers to the AFRO queries by Mr. Victory E. Cooley, vice president of the N.Y. Telephone Co., are typical of the organization's attitude:

Cites Evasive Answers

I asked Mr. Cooley what are his plans for the employment of colored people after the war and he replied:

"We expect to continue our policy of non-discrimination after the war. At this time, not having any way of foretelling what our employment requirements may be following the close of the war, and in view of union contract commitments, such as seniority provisions, etc., naturally we cannot give any assurances that post-war conditions may or may not involve some reductions in personnel."

"In view of the many thousands of employees on your payroll," I asked, "can you give me an idea of how many colored persons are at work here?"

"Having no exact record, as such, I will estimate the number at about 150. I know this is a substantial increase in the number employed more than a year ago."

With an answer like this, this official had the gall to think that I would fall for his line that . . . "we expect to continue our policy of non-discrimination after the war."

What Is Discrimination?

If the employment of only 150 colored persons in a company as large as this is not out-and-out discrimination, then what is?

Mr. Cooley admitted that the company increased the number of colored workers during the emergency. He also said that, so far as he knows, they have performed satisfactorily at their various levels of employment and are doing skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled work.

He Gets the Lowdown

This was the most information I could get out of him as he did not wish to comment further. Reliable sources gave me the real lowdown.

Julius A. Thomas, director fo the department of industrial relations of the National Urban League, revealed the following information:

The N.Y. Telephone Co. does not employ a single colored telephone operator, and that despite efforts of the National Urban League which has conferred with telephone officials on many occasions. All attempts so far have failed.

The personnel director of the Bell laboratories insists that colored girls have a noticeable Southern accent which makes them difficult to understand, and that this would not do in New York.

The fallacy of this statement is that there are employed at the present time many white Southern girls who have a very distinct accent, but the company is willing to overlook this in their cases.

Mr. Thomas told me that even the other affiliated companies of the vast telephone system, which spreads like a web throughout the United States, do not employ colored operators.

Advertisement a "Mistake"

He cited one instance in which he saw an advertisement in a Louisville, Ky., paper for girls to be trained as telephone operators.

He immediately dispatched six girls to Louisville, but when they applied for the jobs, they were told that the ad was a mistake and that the company had no such openings.

The girls returned home. Several days later, the same ad appeared again in the same paper. This time Mr. Thomas decided to do a little personal investigating.

He found that the company was hiring girls, but whites only. When he asked the employment interviewer why colored girls were refused these positions, he was told that the company could not use them in these jobs, but could employ them in jobs as maids.

He notified the FEPC immediately.

"It's only one of many times that I have reported violations to the FEPC by the telephone company," Mr. Thomas said, "but nothing has ever been done about it.

He Can't Understand It

"For the life of me, I simply can't understand why they allow a public utility as big as this to get away with such discriminatory practices. You'd think they would crack down on them at least once. But nothing doing."

From other sources I learned that the company employed its 150-odd colored workers in the last three or four years only and had very few on the payroll before that time.

Positions being filed now are some clerical jobs in Brooklyn, porters, messengers, maintenance men, several technical assistants, and one professional technical assistant.

The greatest break-through has been made in its Harlem office at 316 Lenox Avenue where six girls are employed.

Instructor "Scared to Death"

I interviewed the instructor of these girls and also the office manager, both white men.

The instructor, true to the policy and tradition of the company, refused to commit himself and seemed scared to death that he might be quoted. He was more than glad to brush me off and pleasantly, but firmly, referred me to the manager, a Mr. Geisler, for any information I wanted.

Incidentally, Mr. Geisler is the only bright spot I found in the entire company's outlook on things.

He struck me as being a realist who understood his employer's attitude, wanted to keep his job, above all, but still had the courage to express himself without fear on many delicate issues.

He seems to have had a good deal of education and more than a fair share of liberalism within his makeup.

All Six College Grads

He told me that the six girls under his supervision are a hand-picked group, all of them being college graduates, two having master's degrees in the social sciences, and all doing social work before their present employment.

"There's no doubt about the fact that these girls are equal in efficiency and ability to any six white girls in the other of our branch offices," Mr. Geisler said with admiration in his voice.

"In fact," he continued, "when you consider that they've had so much education, they're probably way above the average.

"But the thing we must remember is that when you compare telephone company employees, you've got to make sure that you compare them with people who have had the same amount of experience in working here.

Hired as "Experiment"

"You can't learn the work in a few months. It takes years before you really learn the ropes. Sometimes it may be as much as ten or fifteen years. In the case of our representatives, such as the jobs that these colored girls hold down, it's a matter of about five or six years before they really come into their own.

"The hiring of these girls is really an experiment. To some degree, it's only natural that they're working here in the Harlem office which is located in a colored neighborhood.

"It's easier for them to get along with their own people who come in here to pay bills, place orders for new telephone installations and to make other routine requests. It's the girls' jobs to take care of them . . . and believe me, they're doing a grand job.

"They've been working here about a year or so and I've been in this office only five months, but I've found that they are willing to learn, and I give them every opportunity. Once I tell any one of them a thing, they never forget it.

Tells of His "Dream"

"I'm looking forward to the time when we will be able to take these girls and compare them with a group which has had similar experience. I'm betting that not only will they be just as good, but that they'll be way above the others. This is my fondest dream.

"If people saw the way these girls dress and the way they speak and handle themselves, they'd forget any ideas they ever had about colored people not being on par with whites, if given the same opportunities.

"I'll take any one of these girls and put her against any girl walking down Park Avenue—in dress, appearance and brains—and she'll rate on a par with her, any time, if not higher."

Conclusion

My personal opinion of the whole N.Y. Telephone Co. situation is that the front office needs a number of men of Mr. Geisler's type very badly. Men such as he may be able to change the company's policies.

If not, they would at least make a good fight for it. Mr. Geisler is working with colored people and has learned what they can do. It's about time some of the real big-wigs gave themselves the same opportunity.

NOV 6 1943

Takes Negro Fire men's Cause To Th Supreme Court

Weekly Review
Birmingham, Ala.



MR. R. W. STEELE

NOV 6 1943

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Nov. 5 — According to reports coming from Chief Counsel Charles H. Houston of Washington, D. C. the Steele Case that has attracted quite a bit of interest among all classes of railroad men will be heard on Tuesday November 23, 1943 in the Supreme Court of Alabama at Montgomery.

It will be remembered that W. Steele filed suit against the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen in order to protect his seniority rights, as well as to make protest against discrimination.

On September 15, 1943, Dr. Northup, in testifying before the F.E.P.C., stated that it was the purpose of the Brotherhood to get rid of all Negro Railroad firemen by 1950.

NOV 6 1943

Says Discrimination Causes $20 Billion Loss To Industry

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

CHICAGO — (ANP) — Occupational discrimination against Negroes costs the nation's industries $15,000,000,000 and $20,000,000,000 yearly, Dr. Maynard Krueger charged Thursday night. The occasion was the third annual session of the Institute on Racial Minorities held before a packed mixed audience at the Central YMCA.

The Negro Railroad man for more than a half century has been employed by the railroads. He has almost sweated blood in the performance of his duties.

Dr. Krueger, professor, is vice-chairman of the Chicago Conference Against Racial and Religious Discrimination.

Another speaker at the session, Sam Sponseller, national chairman of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing committee, CIO declared that the Detroit race riots would have been much worse had it not been for the CIO's championing of the Negro cause.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82
TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE

Farms Cry Labor Shortage But Scribe Finds Jamaicans Here 'Short' On Jobs

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
AUG 14 1943

AUG 14 1943

By SAM LACY
(Defender Staff Correspondent)
(Second of a Series)

After traveling upward of 1,200 miles in search of employment on U. S. farms, large numbers of Jamaican agricultural hands concentrated in the New Jersey area are twiddling their thumbs waiting for work that is not to be had.

Because of this and a host of other reasons, there is a growing resentment among these people, and they are constantly threatening abandonment of the government-controlled farm-labor camps to return to their homes.

A definite food problem is among these reasons. At Burlington Center, Burlington, N. J., for example, I saw Linford McTaggart, one of the workers, devouring in great haste, an unrecognizable mixture that had been served him as a "Sunday dinner" in a fly-ridden mess hall.

Burlington was the sixth of eleven government-maintained farm-labor camps I visited during my 2,000-mile tour investigating conditions among the Jamaican and Bahamian agricultural workers brought to the United States to relieve the farm-labor shortage.

I had seen several of the centers scattered over New York state and Connecticut, but conditions among the workers in those areas were nothing like those encountered by me as I worked my way down through New Jersey, Delaware and into Maryland.

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Complaints Abound

I found that justifiable complaints and causes for dissatisfaction abound in the New Jersey centers. Lack of work, poor housing, danger of disease, racial indignities, inadequate medical provisions, absence of facilities for purposes of personal hygiene, and acute food problems combine to completely baffle the men and women concentrated along the Eastern seaboard on six-month contracts with the War Food Administration to aid in the harvesting of crops.

McTaggart, for example, had told me just prior to my leaving the messhall the reason he was gulping down the half-cold meat-and-rice hash with apparent disregard for his digestive functions.

"We've already shown you how these metal plates become rust-covered between meals, and how we have to clean them every time we want to u. them. Well, we've found out that unless we eat the food out of them right away, it will turn black before we're finished."

"Vicious Cycle"

Thus I discovered that hurried eating represents for these people something of a middle ground between ptomaine posioning and starvation.

But why, of all things, should there be any fear of starvation? You may want to ask that question. I did, and I asked it.

Robert Mason, of Porus, answered, and very logically. He recited the Jamaican's "vicious cycle." "We have to have meal tickets in order to get food from the kitchen, don't we? We have to have money to buy the tickets from the office, don't we? And we have to have work to get the money, don't we?

"Well, we don't get the work. Therefore, we don't get the money and as a consequence, we have to be given credit to get the meal tickets without paying for them. Since work is so scarce, we find it bad business to establish credit when we don't know how we're going to pay the bills."

It developed that of the 400 workers crowded into the Burlington farm-labor center, near Burlington, N. J., less than 150 can count on steady work. Those who do get an average amount of work are men who were lucky enough to get the first assignments. When the farmers come to the center to pick up labor, they invariably select those hands who have worked with them previously. The others simply wait around for work that doesn't seem destined to come.

The same complaint on scarcity of work exists at the other two New Jersey camps, Swedesboro and Big Oak, the latter near Bridgeton. Officials at both these centers declare that a prolonged dry spell has cut down production to a tremendous degree. They point out also that the workers have nothing to worry about because an agreement between their government and the U. S., assures them they will be paid for three-fourths of the time they spend on American soil, whether they work or not.

The Jamaicans, however, contend that this would be all right if it solved their immediate problem.

At Swedesboro, for example, Robert Mason told me, "I have a family of eight, wife and seven children, at home in Porus. I am the sole support. How can I feed them or clothe them or both, now, if I can find no work to do? How can I prevent these things today or tomorrow if I must wait until sometime after I return home when the U. S. government makes up its mind to compute my time?"

Home-sickness Not Cause

Mason, like many of the Jamaicans, exhibited a high intelligence quotient. And it was this fact that convinced me there is some foundation for their complaints, reports of War Food Administration investigators and camp officers notwithstanding.

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There were some, I did enough, whose claims of abuse were obviously born of nostalgia, as a government spokesman told me. But these cases were few and, in view of the many ills described, could easily be disregarded.

One of the chief criticisms at Swedesboro has to do with housing. The Jamaicans do not like the quarters in which they are compelled to live. I visited several and could readily understand why.

The wooden structure gave me the impression I was stepping into a huge oven, it was so unbearably hot. The low, tin roof seemed to collect and concentrate the heat. I was told that although it is stifling in the day in these structures, it is draughty and damp at night.

Ired by Bigotry

Alfred McCourty, of Porus, spoke in heated terms as he described how he and four tentmates crowd into their canvas quarters and take turns at the center spot in the interior, for only there can a normal man stand up straight. All others must remain crouched while they are within the tent.

To a man, they said they are simply awaiting an expiration of their six-month contract period. Then they are going home. They say they are sick of "living like dogs," eating undesirable food, waiting for work that won't come and wondering if they will have a home to return to when that time arrives.

They said they have never been accustomed to racial animosity and they do not intend to tolerate it in a strange land. They promise trouble the next time any one of their number is insulted by "an ignorant white ice-cream parlor clerk," such as occurred a few days before my arrival in the New Jersey area.

Racial indignities have aroused hatred among these Jamaicans, whose government felt it was avoiding such a possibility when it insisted that the workers from Jamaica be placed above the Mason-Dixon line. Just how deep is this feeling will be discussed in the next of this series, next week.

AFL Again Hedges on Anti-Negro Bars

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

By Louis F. Budenz
(Daily Worker Staff Correspondent)

BOSTON, Mass., Oct. 12. — Discrimination against Negroes in the unions and in industry as a whole "must be eliminated," the 63rd convention of the American Federation of Labor declared today in a resolution unanimously adopted, but, as in previous conventions failed to take any real measures to eliminate Negro bars in affiliated unions.

A campaign throughout the AFL affiliated unions to hasten the wiping out of such discrimination was agreed upon in the resolution, which pointed to the fact that "those in our armed forces are risking their lives in our country's defense without thought of national origin or the color which nature has given them."

This statement of what was termed a "basic principle" with the AFL was adopted at a session which also heard Joseph D. Keenan, labor member and vice-chairman of the War Production Board, assail conscription of labor as injurious to heightened production.

President William Green said that Negro labor unions would be accepted in full status if he had his way, but he added that the will of the "majority" must prevail.

Negroes now are accepted into a number of AFL affiliates in auxiliary unions.

Green said he believed the race problem of trade unionism could be solved only by understanding and education, not by the application of force. At the same time, he criticized Negro leaders for appealing to labor at large to boycott the AFL when it attempted to organize Negro labor.

A. PHILIP RANDOLPH

President A. Philip Randolph of the Brotherhoods of Sleeping Car Porters touched off a discussion of the question of race as it applies to labor when he asserted that the "system of auxiliary unions based on race is undemocratic, un-American and violative of the fundamental principles of trade unionism."

Randolph spoke in comment on his own resolution condemning auxiliary unions and calling for their abolition—a resolution which the resolutions committee charge theoretically suggested be returned to the post-war problems committee for further study.

Vice-President Charles MacGowan of the International Brotherhood of Boiler Makers, Iron Ship Builders and Helpers charged Randolph with the "greatest disservice ever rendered his people."

John P. Frey, secretary of the Resolutions Committee, told of the "heavy heart" with which he had heard "the accusations against the AFL" and likewise enlarged on "the disservice" which Randolph had done the Negroes.

Frey even went to the extent of quoting the current article in the Negro Digest by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt to bolster up his assertion that everything cannot be "secured at one stroke."

Taking the floor in reply, Randolph said it was the first time he had ever heard that "a disservice" was rendered by calling attention to abuses. That was too much like accusing the meteorologist of creating the storm of which he warned.

WANTS PROOF

The president of the Sleeping Car Porters said he would like to see the Negro electricians who had been admitted to the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, as he had been unable to find them throughout the country. He again assailed the auxiliary unions as "undemocratic and un-American." Nothing has been said on this floor, he concluded, that caused him to alter one word he had said.

Green complained that outstanding Negro leaders had refused to help the AFL organize the Negro workers, not saying that discrimination was the cause of any such attitude. He added that the unions should end all discrimination, in his opinion. It was then that Webster made the concluding remarks.

Vice-chairman Joseph Keenan of the War Production Board and former secretary of the Chicago Federation of Labor, stressed the big accomplishments of American war production and charged that

OCT 13 1943

"conscription of labor would slow down our industrial output for many months if it is attempted before every other recourse is tried."

"Conscription of labor has not cured absenteeism or strikes in Great Britain," Keenan stated. "The New York Times recently reportedthat absenteeism is running about 6 per cent."

Keenan emphasized the importance of getting more women workers in many communities. The West arrangement he striking way to r problem volun action of unions the current bad among war work- unities. The West arrangement he striking way to r problem volun action of unions meet the manpower pro- tarily through joint acti- and management.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82



Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

SEP 3-1943

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Gen.

"Southern Customs" Controlling Factor

Philadelphia Tribune Philadelphia, Pa.

SEP 25 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Federal Government aids and abets discriminations against colored workers on Southern Railroads. This startling testimony highlighted the sessions of the Railroad hearings before the FEPC here last week.

Charges against 22 railroads and 14 railways labor unions were made. Dr. Herbert R. Northrup, WLB staff adviser on Negro Labor problems, was the first witness.

SEP 25 1943

Advised Unions

Dr. Northrup said Dr. Wm M. Leiserson, chairman of the mediation board, and the late James W. Carmalt, former member, had aided and advised white labor unions on methods to deny colored workers fair representation in collective bargaining.

SEP 25 1943

Letters from Leiserson and Carmalt to railway labor unions officials were read into the record by Northrup.

Cites Jacksonville Case

Leiserson, he said, divulged strategic plans of the colored helpers of the Jacksonville Terminal Co., to white union officials in advising them to withdraw their own case from mediation board jurisdiction union involved in a jurisdictional election that increased representation for colored workers constituted an "unhealthy condition," Northup reported.

SEP 25 1943

"It is to be doubted that such apparent favoritism constitutes a sound public policy," Nortrup told the FEPC, "The national mediation board is not above criticism for its actions."

Strung to the quick by the pitiless exposure, the chief attorney for one of the offending railway systems, Sidney S. Alderman, argued that the agreements with labor organizations "were arrived at by processes under the Federal Railway Act and earlier controlling United States labor

SEP 25 1943

Alderman laid great stress upon "prevailing southern racial customs" which he claimed would not countenance the employment by the railways of colored workers in all types of service.

SEP 25 1943

"For the carriers to point out this concept of equality," said Mr. Alderman, "would prejudice the rights, livelihoods, and in many instances even the life of the Negro, himself."

President May Intervene

Direct appeals to President Roosevelt to bring pressure on the railway labor organizations to give colored Americans and Mexican railroad employees all privileges of membership and complete protection for their jobs are flooding the White House.

SEP 25 1943

Agrees To Stop Jim Crow

The first break of the solid front of the carriers to upgrade colored workmen in any position above that of common laborer or menial came during the hearings.

SEP

F. E. Burkhages, personel officer of the Union Pacific Railroad, announced his company was prepared to do something about the complaints involving the road. The company was the only one to deny that it maintained a policy of discrimination.

Members of the committee predicted that other railroads would follow the lead of the Union Pacific. Should the carriers agree to stop discriminating, the railroad labor unions would be left as the sole violators of President Roosevelt's executive order.

Three railroad Brotherhoods refuse to enroll colored men as members. Several unions representing maintenance and repair employees also refuse full membership to colored workers.

SEP 25 19

The committee will study the facts and make recommendations.

Murray Cries For Equality Of Race In Ry Jobs

Advertiser Montgomery, Ala.

DEC 26 1943

Asks Roosevelt To Crack Down On 16 Southern Railroads

DEC 26 1943

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—(INS)—Phillip Murray, president of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, called upon President Roosevelt tonight to support the fair employment practices committee's order to 16 Southern railroads to cease discrimination against negro employes.

The carriers have issued a joint statement saying the FEPC "is wholly without constitutional and legal jurisdiction and power to issue directives, and for this reason the directives were without legal effect."

DEC 26 1943

Murray declared the defiance of the 16 Southern railroads makes it imperative that the President insist that the committee's directive be complied with."

Thus, there was laid on the White House doorstep another issue for President Roosevelt to tackle. Fate of the FEPC was believed dependent upon the result of the railroads' open challenge of its constitutional authority. The issue, it was believed, probably will be referred by the President to Attorney General Francis Biddle for a test case in the courts.

President Roosevelt, previous to the carriers' attack, issued a directive to all governmental agencies to require a no-discrimination clause to be inserted in all government contracts with private firms.

The railroads, operating in the Southland, charged that the FEPC was "utterly unrealistic" in attempting to solve delicate problems of interracial relations in Southern States "by fiat."

Murray, in his telegram to President Roosevelt, said that "the recent decision of the committee on fair employment practices based upon the admittedly discriminatory practices existing in the railroad industry represents a decided step forward in achieving the principles that this country was founded upon.

"Any discriminatory practices against any group is contrary to our best interests and at this time directly aids the enemy."

DEC 26 1943

24 Railroads and 14 Labor Unions Charged With Color Discrimination

Washington Tribune Washington, D. C.

SEP

Charges of discrimination in employment because of race or color against the Virginian Railroad Company and 23 railroads and 14 labor unions, being examined by the President's Committee on Fair Employment this week.

Many railroads in the South are said to be behind certain contract agreements; others have made no effort to adjust Negro complaints of discrimination in contracts with the firm's suppliers of goods and have refused to see a slow down in war production. Whether or not the Brotherhood at a meeting with the colored Sleeping Car Porters

★ ★ Spirit Of The Press

York City, was called to the witness stand. He holds a high office in the Merchant Seamans' National Maritime Union. He testified that in his union there is no discrimination because of color, since that is both un-American and un-Christian. That in their water borne transport colored and white work together in harmony. That there are now other establishments in this country with mixed personnel who work without friction. That ships of their union sail from southern ports.

Mr. Myers said a "Man is a sailor regardless of color." He cited the incident of Welch miners throwing a demonstration in appreciation of the ship Booker T. Washington and her gallant commander, Capt. Mulsaz, who sails with a mixed crew. He also stated that his union obeyed the government order concerning practices of upgrading of the men without discrimination.

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

NEGRO PROBLEM CAN BE SOLVED, SAYS KAISER

PORTLAND, Or., Nov. 18.—Confidence that the problems of Negro shipyard workers can be worked out was expressed by Edgar F. Kaiser at the conclusion of President Roosevelt's Fair Employment Practices Committee hearing here Tuesday.

"If the union side of this thing gets clarified, labor and management can sit down and work out the details of this whole race problem in such a way that there will be no community or social problems," the general manager of the Kaiser yards at Portland and Vancouver declared.

Attorney Charles Robinson read a statement from Tom Ray in which the secretary-business agent of the Portland Boilermakers' Union, affiliate of the American Federation of Labor, asserted he was in favor of equal economic opportunities to all workers but would "proceed only as far as the international brotherhood will allow."

Ray earlier had accused the international of setting up Negro auxiliaries as a dues-collecting measure without offering union privileges to members. The hearing was into charges of Negro workers that they were dismissed from Portland-Vancouver shipyards after refusing to join the auxiliaries.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

NEGROES MUST FIGHT SOUTHERN RAIDLOADS' DEFIANCE OF FEPC

To to the Editor:

True to form, the Southern Bourbons that run the railroads in the South are alarmed at the fact that Negroes are taking the professions of the United Nations about democracy and freedom, seriously, have hurled defiance to the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice for its issuance of directives to sixteen Southern carriers, ordering that the age-old practices of racial discrimination against Negro workers be stopped. Hiding behind the smoke screens that the directives of FEPC are unrealistic and impractical, and conjuring up horrifying hobgoblins of racial disaster in the South if just employment opportunities are awarded Negroes in the railroad industry, the Southern railroad managements have denounced President's Executive Order 8802 as a scrap of paper, expressing their flat refusal to obey it.

A. Phillip Randolph.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Fair Hiring Practices On The South's Railroads

From Norfolk Virginian-Pilot

There was a time, within the memory of every middle-aged person, when nearly all—if not, indeed, all—firemen on the South's railroads were Negroes. Every locomotive was fired from a kind of coal-car trailer. Firing the locomotive was a job of hard, sooty shoveling and Negro firemen were hired for it with almost a complete absence of white competition.

The employment picture began to change with the introduction of new locomotive design. Automatic stokers took most of the backache out of the job of firing coal-fed locomotives. Diesel-powered locomotives gave the fireman's job a new elegance and leisure. The job that white workers were once content to leave to Negro operatives they now began to seek for themselves. The Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen accelerated the displacement of Negro firemen by white firemen by various devices. They negotiated working agreements with the railway companies under which difficulties were imposed against the hiring of firemen not eligible for promotion to the rank of engineers and conductors. By one such device or another—some expressed and others tacit—the bars against the employment of Negroes as locomotive firemen have been raised higher and higher. The pressure is on to replace Negro firemen with white firemen.

This is the background to keep in mind in appraising the present conflict between the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices and the sixteen Southern railway companies that have rejected the Committee's directives instructing the carriers to end employment discriminations based on color or race. The carriers question the legal authority of the Committee to promulgate an order touching working agreements governed by the Railway Labor Act. They affirm that a flat attempt to do away brusquely with employment practices rooted in established Southern custom is "utterly unrealistic." They declare in particular that—

> Any attempt . . . for instance, to promote Negroes to locomotive engineers or trainconductors, would inevitably disrupt their present peaceful co-operative relations with their employes, would antagonize the traveling and shipping public served by them, would substitute conditions of chaos for the present conditions of harmony, would result in stoppages of transportation, and would most gravely and irreparably impair the whole war effort of the country.

This kind of reply by the carriers was invited by the inclusiveness of the FEPC's directives. The Committee, as its chairman, Malcolm Ross, has made clear, was chiefly concerned with the progressive displacement and non-hiring of Negro firemen. But when it drew up its cease and desist order it attacked all forms of racial discrimination—in railway promotion as well as in hiring. In his rebuttal to the carriers' defiance of the committee, Mr. Ross says that the issue of promoting Negro firemen to the engineer and conductor ranks "is dormant and could remain so if the railroads offer justice to Negro railroad men in the classifications where reason and public policy both urge it." More is the pity, then, that the FEPC did not limit its cease and desist order to the main grievance, instead of expanding its directives to open the whole Pandora's Box of racial segregation and discrimination.

The railway companies are far less to blame for the provoking element of this dispute—the cold squeeze applied to Negro firemen—than the white-controlled brotherhoods. The "practicable" limitation on the hiring of firemen is not the invention of the carriers but the invention of the unions. No such limitation was found necessary in the past to dispose of the "delicate" question of Negro engineers and conductors. The question never became delicate because it never arose. It was arbitrarily made delicate by the covetousness of the unions for jobs which they were formerly content for Negro workers to have, but which they now want for the union's white members. The simple term for this is greed.

Railroads and FEPC

From Richmond Times-Dispatch

The Fair Employment Practice Committee and the 16 Southern railroads which have declined to follow its directions concerning the employment of Negroes, seem to be in disagreement as to the issues involved in the controversy. The FEPC says it is talking solely about the hiring of Negro firemen on locomotives, at a time when there is a shortage of 850 firemen on American railroads, whereas the 16 Southern carriers say that any attempt "to promote Negroes to locomotive engineers or train conductors," would inevitably disrupt conditions and hamper the war effort.

Since Malcolm Ross, chairman of the FEPC, flatly denies that his committee is interested in promoting colored men to positions as engineers or conductors, it would be interesting to know what the 16 carriers have to say concerning the desirability of putting on colored firemen to take up the existing shortage. Mr. Ross states that "white Southern engineers have for decades had decent working relationships with Negro firemen," and he quoted Sidney Alderman, counsel for the railroads at the FEPC hearings, as having said: "I certainly do not mean to contend that anything in the South would interfere with the employment of Negroes as firemen on locomotives."

Apparently the 16 railroads suspected the FEPC of wanting to do the things it now denies having in mind. In the light of this denial, what do the railroads have to say concerning the proposition? Are they willing to increase their efficiency by employing colored firemen where vacancies and shortages exist?

There remains the important question which concerns the attitude of the Brotherhoods of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen. No reply has been received from that quarter to the directive of the FEPC. The carriers point out that they cannot go counter to contracts which they have signed with the brotherhoods, and that the provisions of the Railway Labor Act are applicable. True enough, but the FEPC retorts that the "discriminatory Southeastern Carriers' Conference Agreement . . . was reached with the brotherhoods in 1941, and by mutual agreement it can be altered or discarded."

If the FEPC is trying to do the things which the carriers have accused it of, there is much to be said concerning the difficulties which would arise on the railroads, if an attempt were made to carry out the FEPC's instructions. But if the only real issue involved is whether colored firemen are to be employed by railroads which sorely need such firemen, but which are prevented from hiring them by agreements between the union and the companies concerned, then the agreement should be rewritten. No union, no corporation, should be allowed to stand in the way of the war, and the railroads are absolutely vital to victory. They must operate with maximum efficiency, and they should be free to employ such crews as they require.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82



Bee (Magazine Section
Chicago, Ill.
NOV 14 1943
35c Gen.

Telephone Companies' Refusal to Hire Colored Is Nation-wide

Afro-American Baltimore, Md

U.S. Biggest Public Utility Hasn't Single Colored Telephone Girl; Defies FEPC. 'Brushes Off' Reporters

By RICHARD DIER

(The Southwestern Bell Telephone company in Kansas City, Mo., refused to sign a government contract agreeing to employ colored workers without discrimination. Colored people have also been refused positions as operators in other cities. New York, a liberal city, was chosen by the AFRO, therefore, for a survey of the telephone company there.—ED.)

NOV 6 1943

NEW YORK—If you're ever asked to name one of the biggest companies in New York which practices the most vicious jim-crow policy and you pick the New York Telephone Company, you won't be far wrong.

This great public utility is showing complete disregard of the principles for which we're fighting and brazenly continues with its discriminatory hiring policies.

To cover up, company officials have pulled the wool over the eyes of social workers and even of colored reporters by giving vague answers, acting cordial and receptive, and by never committing themselves to any definite policy.

For instance, the following answers to the AFRO queries by Mr. Victory E. Cooley, vice president of the N.Y. Telephone Co are typical of the organization attitude:

Cites Evasive Answers

I asked Mr. Cooley what ar his plans for the employment c colored people after the war an he replied:

"We expect to continue ou policy of non-discrimination afte the war. At this time, not hav ing any way of foretelling wha our employment requirement may be following the close of th war, and in view of union contrac commitments, such as seniorit provisions, etc., naturally we car not give any assurances that pos war conditions may or may not involve some reductions in personnel."

"In view of the many thousands of employees on your payroll," I asked, "can you give me an idea of how many colored persons are at work here?"

"Having no exact record, as such, I will estimate the number at about 150. I know this is a substantial increase in the number employed more than a year ago."

With an answer like this, this official had the gall to think that I would fall for his line that . . . "we expect to continue our policy of non-discrimination after the war."

What Is Discrimination?

If the employment of only 15(colored persons in a company as large as this is not out-and-ou discrimination, then what is?

Mr. Cooley admitted that thei company increased the number of colored workers during the emergency. He also said that, so far as he knows, they have performed satisfactorily at their various levels of employment and are doing skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled work.

He Gets the Lowdown

This was all most information I could get out of him as he did not wish to comment further. Reliable sources gave me the real lowdown.

Julius A. Thomas, director fo the department of industrial relations of the National Urban League, revealed the following information:

The N.Y. Telephone Co. does not employ a single colored telephone operator, and that despite efforts of the National Urban League which has conferred with telephone officials on many occasions. All attempts so far have failed.

The personnel director of the Bell laboratories insists that colored girls have a noticeable Southern accent which makes them difficult to understand, and that this would not do in New York.

The fallacy of this statement is that there are emplyoed at the present time many white Southern girls who have a very distinct accent, but the company is willing to overlook this in their cases.

Mr. Thomas told me that even the other affiliated companies of the vast telephone system which spreads like a web throughout the United States, do not employ colored operators.

Advertisement a "Mistake"

He cited one instance in which he saw an advertisement in a Louisville, Ky., paper for girls to be trained as telephone operators.

He immediately dispatched six girls to Louisville, but when they applied for the jobs they were told that the ad was a mistake and that the company had no such openings.

The girls returned home. Several days later, the same ad appeared again in the same paper. This time Mr. Thomas decided to do a little personal investigating.

He found that the company was hiring girls, but whites only. When he asked the employment interviewer why colored girls were refused these positions, he was told that the company could not use them in these jobs, but could employ them in jobs as maids.

He notified the FEPC immediately.

"It's only one of many times that I have reported violations to the FEPC by the telephone company," Mr. Thomas said, "but nothing has ever been done about it.

He Can't Understand It

"For the life of me, I simply can't understand why they allow a public utility as big as this to get away with such discriminatory practices. You'd think they would crack down on them at least once. But nothing doing."

From other sources I learned that the company employed its 150-odd colored workers in the last three or four years only and had very few on the payroll before that time.

Positions being filed now are some clerical jobs in Brooklyn, porters, messengers, maintenance men, several technical assistants, and one professional technical assistant.

The greatest break-through has been made in its Harlem office at 316 Lenox Avenue where six girls are employed.

Instructor "Scared to Death"

I interviewed the instructor of these girls and also the office manager, both white men.

The instructor, true to the policy and tradition of the company, refused to commit himself and seemed scared to death that he might be quoted. He was more than glad to brush me off and pleasantly, but firmly, referred me to the manager, a Mr. Geisler, for any information I wanted.

Incidentally, Mr. Geisler is the only bright spot I found in the entire company's outlook on things.

He struck me as being a realist who understood his employer's attitude, wanted to keep his job, above all, but still had the courage to express himself without fear on many delicate issues.

He seems to have had a good deal of education and more than a fair share of liberalism within his makeup.

All Six College Grads

He told me that the six girls under his supervision are a hand-picked group, all of them being college graduates, two having master's degrees in the social sciences, and all doing social work before their present employment.

"There's no doubt about the fact that these girls are equal in efficiency and ability to any six white girls in the other of our branch offices," Mr. Geisler said with admiration in his voice.

"In fact," he continued, "when you consider that they've had so much education, they're probably way above the average.

"But the thing we must remember is that when you compare telephone company employees you've got to make sure that you compare them with people who have had the same amount of degree, it's only natural that this office which is located in the Harlem area to learn their work in colored neighborhood. My personal opinion is that the situation needs opportunity. If not, they would at least make if given the same opportunities. "I'll take any one of these girls a good fight for it. Mr. Geisler and put her against any girl walk-is working with colored people and has learned what they can type very badly. Men such as he may be able to change the company's policies.

Tells of His "Dream"

"If people saw the way these girls dress and the way they speak and handle themselves, they'd forget any ideas they ever had about colored people not being on par with whites, if given the same opportunities. "I'll take any one of these girls and I give them every chance to learn, and I found that they are will- ing. Once I tell any one of these girls only five months, I dream a thing, they never for- get only will they be just as good but that they'll be way above the others. This is my dream."

Hired as "Experiment"

"You can't learn the work in a few months. It takes years before you really learn the ropes Sometimes it may be as much as ten or fifteen years. In the case of our representatives, such as the jobs that these colored girls hold down, it's a matter of about five or six years before they really come into their own.

"The hiring of these girls is really an experiment. To some about a year or so and I've been the same opportunity.

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Negro Firemen Eased Out of Employment When Diesel Engines Came In

Kansas City Call

'White Collar' Jobs Too Good for Colored Men; Broad Implications In Probe About to Start in D. C.

Kansas City, Mo.

BY ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Barring an 11th hour about-face, the Fair Employment Practice committee will raise the curtain here on its delayed-action hearings into the railroad industry on Sept. 15, with repeat performances on the 16th and 17th.

Of all the hearings that have been conducted in the two-year existence of the committee, none has succeeded so well in being the cause of celebre of the masses and at the same time the bane of the top-hat pressure boys, such as the one now about to take place.

It is the purpose of this article to discuss the subject in such a manner as to afford some understanding of the factors involved and their broad implications. Indeed, this is no ordinary hearing. Was it not twice postponed and later the rock that wrecked the original committee?

All Not Porters

When the average person thinks of the Negro as a railroad worker, his first thought is of the redcap who carried his bag or the sleeping car porter who made down his berth or the waiter who brought him his meals.

While redcaps, pullman porters and dining car waiters are the primary classifications of Negro railway workers, they are not the only ones. As late as 1924 there were at least 10 other major jobs held by Negroes.

Exact figures on the employment of Negroes past and present have never been complete or even adequate except possibly the estimate made in 1937 by the Railroad Retirement board, which claimed that of the 1,957,688 persons engaged in rail transportation, 180,535 were Negroes. There is no breakdown to show the distribution of these workers. The bulk, however, are common laborers and assorted types of porters.

Even among the men whose efforts precipitated the demand for a hearing into the industry, the firemen and brakemen, there is little agreement on estimates. The figure varies anywhere from 1,200 to 6,000 workers, depending upon the source of information.

A Review of Conditions

Nevertheless, while the actual number of the jobs involved is uncertain, there is little doubt as to the worthiness of the effort to determine whether or not there has been discrimination in certain job classifications based upon race, creed or color, all with an eye to eliminating this discrimination.

Before touching on the complaints that have been filed and which are the basis for the hearing, everyone ought to have a smattering of knowledge at least of what the employment situation was 40 or 50 years ago and right down to the present. Highpoints are adequate.

In this, the day of the diesel engine, those who handle the powerhouse of our modern streamliners are almost in the class of white-collar workers compared to the character of the job years ago. Then, locomotive engines sped down the right-of-way only because a man was in it shoveling coal for all he was worth—which wasn't much as wage scales will bear out.

This type of work was hard, hot and dirty. A fireman had to shovel from 12 to 15 tons of coal any day on a regular run. The jobs of brakemen and switchman also were no desirable types of work. Naturally, it being below the dignity of the white man, Negroes were used largely in these tasks.

Once In Majority

At one time—and this was before and including the period of World War I—Negroes were in the majority on southern lines as firemen, switchmen and brakemen. Ninety per cent of the firemen were said to be colored at one time on the Seaboard Air line, Atlantic Coast line, Georgia railroad, Louisville and Nashville, and the Southern Railway company.

Switchmen and brakemen were in relatively the same position. In the Florence, S. C., yard of the Atlantic Coast line, all switching was done by Negroes; today there are hardly any. Terminal yards in Houston once had 85 per cent Negro switchmen; today there are about 15 per cent.

The bureal of labor statistics of the department of labor got up some figures in 1924 to show that throughout the United States, Negroes were engaged in the railroad industry to this extent in the seven major categories:

Laborers	95,713
Porters—train and pullman	20,224
Firemen	6,478
Brakemen	4,485
Switchmen and flagmen	2,874
Boiler washers	2,377
Foremen and overseers	1,195

Others were in baggage, and freighting, conductors, engineers, inspectors, telegraphers, and telephone and telegraph linesmen.

A study made by Dr. Robert C. Weaver, Dr. Charles S. Johnson, Dr. Ira De A. Reid and Dr. Preston Valian for the period 1925-36 showed there to be 1,243 Negro firemen throughout the country which is quite a contrast to the labor department figure. Whatever the case might be, the number shrinking—and rapidly.

Begin To Mechanize

During and immediately after the first World War, the railroads began a program of mechanization the effects of which have had a direct effect upon current events. The changeover to stokerized engines and blowers to keep away the heat and flame of the boilers tended to accelerate a drive which had already begun before the war to drive Negroes out of the jobs they had held for years.

The coming of the diesel engine has given impetus to the drive.

In 1909 the Georgia railroad replaced 10 white hostlers with Negroes at a reduced rate of pay. This antagonized the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen—in which Negroes were barred from membership—and they called a strike. The effect was to crystallize the sentiment among white railroad men to eliminate the Negro as a competitor. Two years later, another strike took place on the Cincinnati, New Orleans and Texas Pacific railroad, and 10 firemen were killed with many injured. The strike was provoked by the hiring of Negroes for the first time.

Gradually a campaign of intimidation developed that began to reduce the ranks of Negro firemen switchmen and brakemen. The trend was accelerated by the change to war work when better salaries were to be had.

Unions Are Organized

But those who were to remain behind decided to organize and to fight the fight. The first organization of Negro railway workers, the Colored Locomotive Firemen's association, was formed in Georgia in 1902 or 1903. In May, 1915, the Railway Men's International Benevolent and Industrial association was organized in Chicago for the purpose of forming "one big union." Robert L. Mays headed it.

Actually, unions began to spring up all over among Negroes so much so that in 1923 it is reported there were 15 and possibly more. The Railway Men's International boasted 187 branches in 30 states and claimed a membership of 35,000. About 15,000 is nearer the truth. Dissension set in in 1921 and the union went into decline and finally disappeared.

Today, outside of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, Dining Car Cooks and Waiters, and the United Transport Service Employes association, there are five other leading unions among Negroes which are focusing attention upon the present situation.

They are the Association of Train Porters, Brakemen and Switchmen; Protective Order of Railway Trainmen; Association of Colored Railway Trainmen; Interstate Order of Colored Locomotive Firemen, Engine Helpers, Yards and Train Service Employes and Railway Mechanics; Provisional Committee to Organize Colored Locomotive Firemen.

The last named group is the baby of A. Philip Randolph and the porters union. He set up the organization in a two-day conference in Washington in March, 1941, to bring in the other unions in the field to fight the encroachments of white firemen. Of this convention more will be said later.

MARITIME JIM CROW PROBED BY N.Y. FEPC

Bee (Magazine Section Chicago, Ill.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23. (ANP) —An extensive investigation of discriminatory employment practices in the maritime industry was launched this week by the New York regional office of the FEPC, according to Edward Lawson, director.

The investigation will cover alleged failure of ship operators, ship owners, shipping agents, and the maritime unions to permit the free employment of qualified Negro seamen and officers on vessels carrying goods to the nation's armed forces and its Allies.

The regional office already has received numerous complaints from colored seamen who have either been refused employment outright or have been accepted only for certain departments. It has also received complaints from a number of Negro trainees of the maritime graduate stations and from qualified Negro licensed officers.

In the FEPC's drive to eliminate the industry's long-standing discrimination against colored deckhands, engine-room workers, and licensed officers, and against mixed crews, the Atlantic Coast regional office of the recruitment and manning division, War Shipping administration, has agreed to co-operate, Mr. Lawson announced. Discrimination is a problem on American-owned vessels whether operated under the American flag or the flags of Pan-American nations.

Mr. Lawson said: "Because of the aparent refusal of some operators and unions to accept needed and available Negroes, a number of colored men holding ratings ranging from ordinary seamen up to master have been forced to remain ashore for long periods, in some cases without hope of going to sea at all, at a time when shortage of manpower frequenlty has threatened to delay ships carrying vital war material.

"At the same time, federal funds are being spent to train thousands of new seamen in such schools as the Sheepshead Bay Training station, the istration Brooklyn; attempts to place graduates of these stations, the white Gallups Island Training center, Boston, and the Fort Trumbull trainees are usually accepted Officers' school, New London, without question while the Negroes Conn. In these schools, frequently must wait and white are trained together months before placement can be without friction, effected and that many of the colored seamen who have been similarly trained at considerable cost as democratic spirit prevails," Mr. firemen, oilers, or engine-room Lawson added. "However, we have found no opportunihands have ties for these newly-acquired skills when the War Shipping admin-

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

Manpower Utilization

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

WAR MANPOWER COMMISSIONER PAUL V. McNUTT hit at the heart of the manpower problem when he testified before the Senate Military Affairs Committee that the chief question is proper utilization of our manpower resources, rather than a shortage of the labor supply.

He thereby confirmed the recent findings of Richard Frankensteen, Auto Workers Union vice-president, to the effect that the current labor crisis in aircraft is primarily a matter of bad planning, material shortages, wage inequalities and other similar maladjustments in the use of our manpower.

Thus, the problem of manpower cannot be tackled independently of the production apparatus. Its solution is inseparably linked with the proper coordination of all phases of industrial, agricultural and military activity. It is part of an over-all set-up which requires over-all planning.

Therein lies the fallacy of the Austin-Wadsworth draft bill. Instead of seeking the key to the manpower muddle in such production questions as allocations of contracts, distribution of raw materials, etc., the bill seeks to remedy present ills by treating manpower purely as an isolated matter. Its primary aim is adding to the essential labor supply rather than correcting production maladjustments.

Current railroad hearings before the FEPC emphasize one major hindrance to proper labor utilization, that of discrimination against Negro workers.

Proper labor utilization requires that those barriers be smashed completely. Full support should be given to the FEPC in its efforts in that direction.

Says Industry Loses Billions Yearly Due To Jim Crow

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

AUG 21 1943

CHICAGO, Aug. 19 — (ANP) — Occupational discrimination against Negroes costs the nation's industries between $15,000,000,000 and $20,000,000,000 yearly, Dr. Maynard Krueger charged Thursday night.

The occasion was the third session of the Institute on Racial Minorities in the Post War World, held before a packed mixed audience at the Central YMCA. Dr. Krueger, University of Chicago professor, is vice chairman of the Chicago Conference Against Racial and Religious Discrimination.

Company "Sorry" In Job Refusal

New York, N. Y.

Amsterdam News

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — The growing reluctance on the part of firms not holding war contracts to be accused of having discriminatory labor policies is indicated in a letter which one west coast manufacturer wrote the area War Manpower Commission representative in answer to a check-up letter regarding an alleged refusal of employment to a Negro.

It appears that a Negro did apply for a job was told by a new stenographer, in the absence of the personnel maanger, that the company does not hire colored people. "Please accept our apologies for this, for we know it is an error," the company wrote. She (the stenographer) did it in complete ignorance of our policies, and has been reprimanded and positive instructions have been issued to anyone in our plant who might say anything to say to people applying for positions that no discrimination in any form will be permitted."

The company promised that if the complaining individual would visit the plant, he would be offered apology and hired to boot.

Industry Loses Because of J. C.

New York, N. Y.

Amsterdam News

Job Discrimination Costing Firms Nearly $20,000,000,000 Yearly

CHICAGO (ANP) — Occupational discrimination against Negroes costs the nation's industries between $15,000,000,000 and $20,000,000,000, yearly, Dr. Maynard Krueger charged Thursday night.

The occasion was the third session of the Institute on Racial Minorities in the Post-war World, held before a packed mixed audience at the Central Y.M.C.A. Dr. Krueger, University of Chicago professor, is vice president of the Chicago Conference Against Racial and Religious Discrimination.

Another speaker at the session, Sam Sponseller, national chairman of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing committee, CIO, declared that the Detroit race riots would have been much worse had it not been for the CIO's championing of race equality.

OPINION

Discrimination Rides the Rails

The railroad's defense for not hiring Negroes except as menials is that rail lines must adapt their "operations and employment practices to the prevailing mores and legal systems of the states they serve."

PM

New York, N. Y.

Yes, of course. You almost always find fried chicken on the menu of the Southern Railway (not always good, but anyway fried). And no doubt if it should happen that Nevada, for instance, legalized bigamy, the Union Pacific would be happy to rearrange its sleeping accommodations, at least as long as its cars were on Nevada soil. Very touching consideration.

Actually, I did not know railroads served states: I thought they served people, all the people. That was the basic reasoning on which the Federal Government moved into the country's interstate transportation picture, and declared railroads "common carriers."

Allegiance to Whom?

Does the Rock Island Railroad, which operates a fast service between Minneapolis and Houston, owe allegiance to Minnesota or Texas? And to what state does the Pullman Co., which operates in 48 states and the District of Columbia, owe allegiance?

I profoundly suspect this sudden and touching consideration by the railroads for "mores." The railroads of this country have fought with impressive consistency against lowering of fares, although cheap travel is certainly in conformity with the "mores" of travel-loving Americans. The railroads of this country fought investment in new equipment in the nonths preceding Pearl Harbor, although by that time war-alertness had become part of our "mores." The railroads of this country have consistently fought against certain types of taxes, although the "mores" of democratic America call for taxation in accordance with ability to pay.

And most especially is it peculiar that the railroads should treat so tenderly the "mores" of the South with respect to Negro employment policies, for this is the same South that had been strangling for years, and complaining bitterly for years, under discriminatory freight rates imposed in favor of the North (which owns the railroads).

A Fair Exchange

I wonder whether the "mores" of the South would be shocked beyond redemption if the Southern, or the Seaboard, or the L & N, hired a few Negro engineers, and, at the same time, joined the fight to give Southern industry a break with lowered freight rates. I think the South could stand up under such a shock. It is surprising, the effect of pocketbooks on "mores," especially with respect to race relations.

And so, at the risk of repeating what this newspaper has said many times, I say that the railroads, in their smooth defense of discrimination, are thinking not of "mores," but of profits. For the railroads, as has big business everywhere, have never found it profitable to press for human rights when such rights interfere with business. And what better cloak could there be for the morals—or lack of them—of business, than an eloquent reference to the "mores" of people?

The Railway Unions

I do not mean to charge here that the railroads alone are to blame in this whole situation, which bears so closely upon our war-manpower problem. The Railroad Brotherhoods, or sections thereof, are as reactionary on race policy as the companies, and primarily for the same economic reasons.

The fact is that there are contracts in existence which calls explicitly for discrimination, contracts signed by certain railroads and railroad unions. The current hearings of the Fair Employment Practice Committee will doubtless develop these facts. I do not know what defense the unions are going to put up. Will they, too, lay the blame on the "mores" of the people?

At any rate, I should like to see, at the hearings, the railroad companies blaming the unions and the unions blaming the railways. There's no telling what good may come when reaction turns upon itself.—VICTOR H. BERNSTEIN



Philadelphia, Pa. Tribune

WASTED MANPOWER

BY ALBERT BLACK

Nothing is denied to well disciplined labor; nothing is even to be attained without it.
—*Sir Joshua Reynolds.*

(Continued from last week)

It is my profound conviction that the large majority of the working class and many others in America, whatever the prejudices they have, do not want to see Americans lynched, beaten, robbed, exploited and discriminated against. They like the colored, expect the government to protect its citizens. But the government does not enforce the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments nor recognize the Four Freedoms or Atlantic

...arter. Colored people the...
...selves must, therefore, go to the only powerfully organized force in the country that can protect them—ORGANIZED LABOR.

Labor is beginning to recognize its own responsiblties as the future leader of our nation. It is beginning to assume those responsibilities when it takes upon itself the defense of all sections of the exploited against boss tyranny. The whole future of America depends on the unity of the black and white workers. The white worker realizes that he will never win a successful victory against anti-labor elements unless he takes the black worker side by side with him.

The destinies of labor and the colored people are synonomous. Unless this established fact is realized by all workers there will be no victory for the worker, black or white, in tomorrow's world.

VICTORY GAINED THROUGH BLOOD SHED NEVER LASTS

VICTORY GAINED THROUGH FORCE NEVER LASTS

VICTORY GAINED THROUGH UNITY *LASTS*

Workers who hesitate or who do not sign up with organized labor will have the same effect on the history of the common man as the fall of Singapore.

Workers who are affiliating themselves with organized labor are doing as much toward a victory for democracy as our armed forces did in their victory in Sicily.

One important issue that cannot be avaded no matter how anyone looks at it and that is:

IT IS JUST AS FUTILE TO STOP THE RISING OF TOMORROW'S DAWN AS IT IS TO PREVENT THE RENDEZVOUS THE BLACK AND WHITE WORKERS HAS WITH THEIR COMMON DESTINY, WHICH IS ONE PURPOSE, ONE UNITY, ONE ORGANIZATION, ONE LEADER, ONE *VICTORY*.

Railroads Revive Antiquated Argument At Hearings On Discrimination

Philadelphia, Pa. SEP 25 1943

WHILE brave Americans are dying all over the world to defeat the forces of Fascism, Sidney S. Alderman, representing the Southern Railway Company, at the Railroad hearings before the FEPC, had the unmitigated gall to trot out the antiquated argument which Grant shot to peices at Appomattox, that the Government is powerless to change age-old customs, no matter how deeply rooted in wrong. Philadelphia Tribune

Mr. Alderman, pretending great sympathy for the problem of integrating colored workers into the Railroad industry, had this to say: **"The prevailing manners and customs of the various sections of the country would not countenance the employment by the railroads of Negroes in all types of positions.**

"It is the view of the railroads that the solution lies in a gradual and moderate process of education, based on mutual good-will and respect. The solution will not be advanced but, rather, will be retarded and made more difficult, by too abrupt an attempt to change, by governmental decree, long-standing practices, rooted in the customs of the people."

The record shows that colored men have been firemen on the railroads for more than a hundred years. Until World War I, colored men held these jobs unchallenged. In the South prior to 1914 practically all railroad firemen were colored. Railroad firemen are the highest paid group of colored workers.

It was in 1941 that the Railroad Brotherhoods signed a non-promotable agreement concerning colored workers with the Interstate Commerce Commission. The agreement further stated that, upon the death of a colored fireman, a white man must fill his place and that colored men should not be given new jobs or new runs.

Where, then, are the long standing practices concerning which Alderman spoke? Where is the gradual progress? Employment conditions on the railroads grow worse, not better; and they are not moderate, but swift and terrifying.

In the face of those facts, this advocate for the railroads has the effrontery to suggest that the Government of the United States is too weak to change these dastardly practices. The railroads believe that "the solution lies in a gradual and moderate process of education, based on mutual good-will and respect."

How in the name of all that is honest can the colored people of America respect their tormentors and oppressors? It is pure nonsense to talk about mutual good-will, when one of the parties has his heel on the neck of the other. Mutual good-will and respect are necessary to the solution of the race problem, but before this is possible the oppressors must move their feet from the necks of the oppressed.

The United States Government has the power to kick the pants off Hirohito and to make Mussolini look like a sick chicken. It is not too weak to make Hitler run to cover. It was not too weak to make the owners of human flesh break the chains of the bondmen. The slave empire, long standing and deeply "rooted in the customs of the people," tottered and fell. And the Government of the United States has the power, the strength and the capacity to force the railroads and the Brotherhoods to abolish discrimination.

For the strongest Government in the world to suggest that it is too weak to force equality of opportunity for all its citizens, makes it ridiculous in the eyes of civilized mankind.

END JIM CROW BARRIERS ON WORK ON ALASKI HI-WAY

Bee
Chicago. Ill

ST. PAUL, Minn., Sept. 9. (ANP)—S. Vincent Owens, executive secretary of the St. Paul Urban league, announced Wednesday that discriminatory barriers against Negro applicants for the Alaska highway project have been removed. For the past year, Negro workers who wanted to work on the Alaska highway were faced with unbelievable difficulties in securing employment on this project. The daily papers carried advertisements stating that workers were needed. Whenever Negro applicants called at the United States Employment service they were discouraged.

The St. Paul Urban league's attention was called to this matter by two applicants who were seeking employment with McCrane Hamilton Kansas City Bridge Construction company. One of the men had worked on the highway project the previous year for another company, but his employment was terminated because the company did not renew its contract. His work was satisfactory.

Mr. Owens referred the matter to the Twin City Fair Employment Practice council. After a conference with Judge Vince Day, chairman of the Twin City FEPC, the regional director of the War Manpower commission and representatives of the USES, the following procedure was established:

The employment service agreed to hire Negro citizens who qualified for employment on the project and refer them to the companies for transportation. The companies would be notified that they would be charged with violating the President's executive order prohibiting discrimination in war industries if the men were not accepted.

The two applicants who had called the situation the league's attention were turned down by the medical examiners. The next applicant was Purcell P. Parker of St. Paul who had been honorably discharged from the United States army. Inasmuch as he was regarded as being in excellent health at the time of his release, the examining physicians for the companies could not turn him down for failure to pass the medical examination. He was employed.

When Mr. Parker arrived in Canada, he discovered that he was the only Negro employed by the company. Since that time additional Negro workers have been accepted not only from St. Paul but various sections of the country.

The St. Paul Urban league urges any Negro applicant who desires employment on the Alaska highway project to make application at the United States Employment service.

Topeka Firm Needs Men—Not Colored

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Editor:

Clipped from the Sept. 16 Want-Ad section of the Topeka Daily Capital, is this item:

"WANTED MEN, any age up to 65 in fair physical condition to do light work in woodworking factory. 63-hour week with time and one-half for all over 40 hours. Curtis Companies, Incorporated, 115 West Crane Street, Topeka, Kansas."

From the above advertisement one would assume that the Curtis Company Inc., needed men. The urgency of the need is even indicated therein. Being colored bars one from making application. The manager of Curtis Company Inc., was even annoyed when a colored man responded to the ad. The colored brother was told in so many words that his color was a disqualifying factor that couldn't be overcome.

The manager then proceeded to declare his love for Negroes, and to fix the responsibility for his discriminatory employment policy on his employes. If you want evidence of his friendship for Negroes, "ask the waiters at the Topeka Country Club;" but don't ask for a job at Curtis Company Inc.

Curtis Company Inc., is engaged in war production—probably on a cost plus contract. The management, no doubt, boasts of their "all-out" efforts to defeat the Axis and all it stands for abroad, but they won't lift a finger to defeat Nazism in their own factory—if it really exists there. If Curtis Company's production should be disqualified for war production because its manager belongs to the Country Club, he would then know how Negroes feel who are disqualified for employment because of color.

—Daniel S. Sawyer,
Topeka, Kas.

35c-1943
Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Equal Rights For Negroes Urged By Labor Leaders

JAN 18 1943

By ROBERT M. RATCLIFFE

The Southern War Labor Conference, which closed a two-day meeting Sunday afternoon at the City Auditorium, went on record as endorsing the fight for repeal of the poll tax and called on the labor movement to disregard creed, color and race and give Negroes equal rights in the nation's industry.

Another highlight of the closing session was the stirring address delivered by a colored district vice-president of the Atlantic and Gulf coast district of the International Longshoremen's Association. The speaker was the Rev. W. M. Jones.

Introduced by Cornelius Maiden, national organizer for the American Federation of Labor, Rev. Mr. Jones declared: "We are seeking the rights as workers in this country that we may be able to support our families in the same manner as other men of this nation."

JAN 18 1943

WANT CIVIL RIGHTS

He made it clear that the Negro is not seeking social equality, stating out that colored people merely want the rights granted by the constitution of the United States.

The minister was high in praise of the American Federation of Labor, stating that he has been dealing with Negroes for 26 years to stay with the organization.

"We are fighting in a good fight, and we have not finished our fight," he said, "and we are trying to make a good fight."

He called on "white friends" to help Negroes prove that they are real citizens of America.

"We are going up the road together fighting this great fight," Rev. Mr. Jones concluded.

Several Negroes served on the conference policy committee which passed the 12-point resolution introduced by Weyler, white, general representative of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, Indianapolis, Indiana, was chairman of the committee.

12-POINT RESOLUTION

Other than the poll tax and racial discrmination items, the resolutions called for a plan for interpreting executive orders, rulings and decisions rendered by Government agencies, reemphasized the American Federation of Labor's no-strike policy, asked full representation for the AF of L on all Government boards and agencies, appealed to the press and public to give full consideration to "needless insults" to labor, opposed any proposal calling for compulsory saving, urged a minimum wage scale for the low-wage group, requested more labor organizers in the southern states, asked all white collar workers to affiliate themselves with the American Federation of Labor, discussed child labor and called a post-war plan that would assure jobs for men returning from military life.

The resolution calling for repeal of the poll tax pointed out that the tax is neither fair nor just and is robbing thousands of colored and white persons in the South of their right to participate in state and national elections.

The resolution on Negro labor said "Negro Labor should have representation in all discussions of labor and Government affairs" and pointed out the progress made by Negroes in all fields since slaves were given their freedom.

MUST BE FAIR

JAN 18 1943

Following a special meeting of colored delegates Saturday night, the policy committee of the conference was asked to approve resolutions calling for appointment of committees on race relations by the American Federation of Labor, abolishment of the poll tax, uniform system of carrying out the Selective Service policies and Negro representation on all Government agencies.

J. R. Weyler, chairman of the policy committee, warned the conference that the CIO will take Negro workers if they are not treated right by the AF of L. He said there are more than 300,000 colored members of the AF of L in the southern states.

JAN 18 1943

He said labor unions are going to be fair to the Negro and white workers might as well make up their minds to like it. "If a Negro can do a job as good as I can, he might as well have a whack at it," the speaker declared.

A group of colored singers representing the Common Laborers and Hod Carriers Union of Birmingham rendered several selections at the opening of the afternoon session Sunday.

More than 300 colored delegates were here from 11 states for the conference. Approximately 2,500 white delegates attended.

Headquarters for the colored delegation was at Savoy hotel. A banquet was given in honor of the Negro representatives Saturday night at the YMCA.

Four colored vice-presidents and several colored organizers were here. Negro leaders occupied space on the platform during most of the sessions.

In a statement after the final session, Pat Dailey, business agent for several locals in Pascagoula, Mississippi, said his group has organized a labor and management war board for the purpose of solving problems confronting the members. He said the organization has benefitted many of the 1,500 colored members in that section.

The War Labor Conference was under auspices of the executive boards of the 11 southern state federations of labor, the organization department of the American Federation of Labor and the labor division of the War Production Board.

GEORGIA

Latest 'Work-Or-Jail' Order Forces Negroes To Wear Badges

AUG 28 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

SANDERSVILLE, Ga., Aug. 26 (ANP)—A good example of the fascist-like application of the unconstitutional "work or go to jail" laws hastily adopted by many Southern communities was disclosed here with the announcement by the chief of police Wednesday that all Negroes, men and women, must carry identification badges indicating the name of their employer troops will be quartered. Breakfast and their work schedule. The order does not apply to white citizens, it was explained.

The order was issued at the suggestion of County Agent S. G. Mercer, who cited a shortage of farm labor in this area. Any Negro over 16 years of age not found in possession of one of the badges will be subject to arrest and prosecution, Mercer said.

COMPULSORY OBLIGATIONS

In addition all Negroes employed in town must report every Wednesday morning during the harvesting season for a day's work on the farms. Stores of the community are being closed every Wednesday to allow use of their workers on the farms.

The announcement, coming from the Fourth Service command at Atlanta that 150 soldiers would be sent to assist Washington county farmers in harvesting crops was being closely watched by observers, who anticipated that only Negro troops possibly from Fort Benning, would be dispatched for this work. It was disclosed that a kitchen would be set up at the Washington county fair grounds where the

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Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Murray, Townsend Seek A "Double V"

JAN 9 - 1943

CHICAGO, Jan. 7—(ANP)—Though the CIO will "continue to work for effective labor unity to promote the war effort" in 1943, there will be no "yielding to any form of racial discrimination," Philip Murray, president of CIO, declared in his message to the nation on New Year's Day. William Green, president of AFL, called upon the nation to "join in united determination to let nothing stop us in working and fighting for the attainment of victory" in 1943. However, Green made no mention of discrimination against Negro defense workers by some AFL unions.

TOWNSEND CALLS FOR UNITY

Speaking from the Chicago offices of the CIO's United Transport Service Employees' union, President Willard S. Townsend called upon Negro and white workers to redouble their efforts to build strong, democratic unions on a basis of racial fellowship and understanding."

"In the railroad industry," Townsend continued, "ours is the only genuinely interracial union. At present we are receiving a large influx of Negro and white railroad workers who are tired of prejudice and discrimination."

WIN WAR; WIN JUSTICE

JAN 9 - 1943

Townsend stated that two main objectives face Negro labor in 1943. "Aside from winning the war, the first is work out an effective method of protecting the gains Negroes are making in defense and non-defense industries. The most effective way to do this is to join and support unions with a perfect seniority system so that the Negro will not be the first fired when victory is achieved.

"The second is to get into defense production first by getting the training for defense work and second by working ceaselessly to smash all forms of discrimination which would limit the contribution which any workers would make for the winning of this war."

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

UNION DISCRIMINATION.

The senate civil service committee has approved an amendment by Senators Langer and Brooks denying benefits of the proposed federal overtime pay bill to any union guilty of racial discrimination. No member of a union in the federal employ would share in the raises authorized by the bill if his particular union refuses to admit Negroes to membership.

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The President has expressed much concern about the problem of discrimination. A committee on fair employment practice established by him has sought to compel industries which have received war contracts to cease discriminating. It rested, however with two members of the opposition party to take the first effective action to insure that the same principles should govern labor unions. Under the favored treatment of this administration, the unions had not had their long standing policy of racial exclusiveness challenged previously.

MAR 18 1943

Especially have the older, well entrenched American Federation of Labor craft unions offended by closing their membership to Negroes. The practical effect of the policy has been to limit the Negro's opportunities of making a living to unskilled trades, common labor, or menial capacities. It required a considerable effort for an administration that was promising the freedoms to everybody everywhere in the world to succeed in closing its eyes to this injustice so close at hand, but somehow the feat was accomplished.

The Langer-Brooks amendment, applying as it does only to members of unions employed by the federal government, is not going to break down racial barriers thruout the trade unions all at once, but it is a start in the right direction.

For Mr. Brooks, the amendment to the pay bill is his second service of distinction within less than a year to American citizens of the Negro race. It will not be forgotten that it was he who wrote into the service men's vote bill the provision that poll tax payments should not be a condition of the vote given any man in uniform.

MAR 8 1943

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Job Freeze Used Against Negroes in South

MAY 10 1943

(Special to the Daily Worker)

CHICAGO, May 9.—Serious dangers facing the Negro people and the entire war effort through application of the manpower freeze order were brought dramatically to light when two Negroes from the South were denied employment here, according to Ishmael P. Flory, organizer for the Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers Union, CIO.

Don Irvin and John Jackson, who worked for 40 cents an hour at Marked Tree, Arkansas, got jobs at the Apex Smelting Co., here, Flory said, but they lost out when personnel managements checked and applied the order.

Operated in this way, the order can serve to freeze Negro workers, traditionally Jim Crowed at the lowest paid, dirtiest and unskilled jobs, in such posts.

Serious as this can be in the North, dangers are more acute in the South under its poll tax, semi-feudal regime.

MAY 10 1943

Irving and Jackson have taken their cases to the CIO and to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the National Negro Congress.

"All win-the-war forces must support the proposition that Irvin and Jackson must remain in Chicago free to seek and find employment where their ability and skills are most useful for the war effort under conditions that will enable them to live in some measure of freedom and security," says Flory.

Chicago Bus Company Agrees To Employ Negroes as Operators

Norfolk, Virginia
Journal and Guide

ally a Negro struck the foreman. Plant guards took him away.

The police were called. Clemmons James Allen, 24, a Negro was arrested and charged with assault and battery in a complaint by the foreman, Robert Van Camp.

"That's all there was until the 7 a. m. day shift," Chief Conroy continued. "Then most of the Negro workers refused to go to work. It was pay day and a lot of them milled around. There was no violence and no trouble.

Meantime, representatives of the management and union conferred developed today, com- to smooth out the trouble officials said, after in an effort a Negro struck a white foreman.

Walcher said there was no labor dispute involved. Walcher said that after the Negro whose war work was 7 a. m. shift, 53 per cent Negroes refused to go to work.

Chicago Plant Fight Stops Negro, White

By the Associated Press

CHICAGO, July 9.—A work stop-page at the American Steel Foundries armor plant in East Chicago developed today, police officials said, after a Negro struck a white foreman.

Albert Walcher, operating vice president, said that after the Negroes en masse, quit work and wouldn't let anyone for several hours

Walcher added, however, that the situation had eased this afternoon and anyone who wanted to had been able to leave.

Police Chief Walter Conroy of East Chicago gave this version of the trouble.

About 3 a. m. a white foreman got into an argument with one or two Negro workers about why they weren't working steadily. Eventually

DISCRIMINATION DENIED

CHICAGO, Ill. —(ANP)— That Chicago buses will soon be operated by Negro drivers was indicated last week when the Chicago Motor Coach company signed a written agreement with the All-Chicago Committee Against Discrimination that 50 colored drivers be employed.

At the conference where the pact was signed were Alds. Benjamin Grant and Earl B. Dickerson of the 3rd and 2nd wards, Oscar Brown, committee chairman, and president of the local branch NAACP, Ishmael Flory and Chicago committee. Benjamin Weintraub, president, represented the motor coach company.

During the discussion Weintraub declared that his company did not discriminate in employment of Negroes and pointed to the 81 Negroes now working for the firm. Under questioning by committee members he admitted, however, that these men were used only as cleaners, washers, and other menial capacities.

The agreement reached here is similar to one existing in New York where Negroes are used on transportation facilities, principally the subway. Detroit street car lines employ Negro men and, Cleveland's surface lines use men as motormen and conductors. A group of men are now being trained in Los Angeles for future employment on surface cars.

The agreement states that Negroes will be given drivers' jobs as soon as seniority men on the concern's preferred list have been absorbed. Weintraub said there are about 210 men on the list. Members of the committee said they would check this list closely to see that the company keeps its promise.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C

Knoxville, Tenn. Journal
November 23.

Investigation Ordered In Negro Hiring Dispute

CHICAGO, Nov. 22 (INS)—An investigation of charges of racial discrimination at the East Alton, Ill., plant of the Western Cartridge Co. has been requested by Regional WMC Director Dean William H. Spencer, he revealed.

Spencer charged the company constantly asks the U. S. Employment Service to provide workers, but turns down Negro applicants.

Spencer, in requesting the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee to investigate the charges, said the company reported both the East Alton community and present employes opposed the employment of Ne

Illinois Telephone Company Guilty of Discrimination

CHICAGO, Ill.—"The people of Chicago and the nation ought to know that the Illinois Bell Telephone Company by its policies of discrimination in the employment and promotion of persons because of race, color and creed is impeding the war effort. While they advertise for help, they refuse to make full use of Negro workers." This was the statement issued by Ishmeal P. Flory, vice-president of the Chicago Council of the National Negro Congress. Having recently spearheaded a successful campaign to end discrimination against Negro workers by the traction companies, the National Negro Congress is currently engaged in a campaign to bring the employment policies of the Telephone Company in line with the President's Executive Order 8802, calling for the abolishment of discrimination in industry because of race, color or creed.

Evidence cited by the Congress to prove that the company is following a policy of refusing to hire Negroes in such capacities as telephone operators, coin box collectors, clerks, etc., and failing to advance the few Negro workers in their employ even though they have qualifications higher than the average worker hired by the company.

At a mass meeting last Sunday of some five hundred Negro and white citizens representing hundreds of organizations, both Negro and white, one Negro employee of the company reported that he had been kept in capacity of janitor ever since he has been in the employ of the company even though his qualifications warrant advancement to a better and more responsible job.

NO JOBS FOR NEGROES

Another worker reported how the Company had continued to evade the issue when pressed for advancement and that when it came to the few Negro workers employed there was no definite policy with regards to how or when such employees qualified for advancement. Still another worker, quite qualified and highly educated, reported that he remained with the Company, in face of these discriminatory policies, because he was determined to stick it out and try to make good in the interest of the other Negro workers, even though he could get a higher paying job in another industry. All three employees desired that their names be kept secret.

The Company, according to Flory, has refused to meet with the National Negro Congress and the organizations supporting the campaign, hiding behind the pretense that the Company has an understanding with some organizations in Chicago that at some indefinite future time, through a gradual process, Negroes would be integrated into the employment of the Company.

Characterizing this as evasion, the National Negro Congress pointed out that while the Bell Telephone Company advertises for help, they refuse to make use of Negro workers in certain jobs. The Congress is calling upon all organizations to advise the Company of their support of the campaign.

Workers Call Joint Confab

Calling upon all city employees to join with them in united effort to secure adequate cost-of-living wage adjustments, the State, County and Municipal Workers of America, CIO, NY District, last week sponsored a conference Monday evening, December 6, 8 pm, at Hotel Capitol, Eighth ave and 51 st.

U. S. PROBES BAN ON NEGRO LABOR AT EAST ALTON

Chicago Tribune

An investigation to determine whether the Western Cartridge company, East Alton, Ill., discriminates against Negroes in its employment policies was ordered yesterday by Elmer W. Henderson, midwest regional director of the President's committee on fair employment practices.

Henderson said the investigation would start at once and that he would take appropriate action under the executive order setting up the committee.

The company issued a statement defending it's hiring policies and welcoming an investigation. Because of the [illegible] attitude toward Negroes of residents of the East Alton area, the company statement said, it was feared that the hiring of Negroes would cause at least a partial shutdown.

The investigation was requested by William H. Spencer, regional war man power commission director. Spencer told Henderson that the company, one of the nation's largest manufacturers of small arms ammunition, employed approximately 13,000 workers in the East Alton plant, but "does not have one Negro employe among them." The United States employment service has referred many Negroes to the plant, he added.

Spencer said records show that the company hires a "substantial percentage" of white workers referred by the employment service for work in the East Alton plant, but no Negro workers ever have been employed. He called attention to the fact that Negro workers have been employed in the United States Cartridge company plant in St. Louis, Mo., 25 miles from East Alton.

Both Western Cartridge and United States Cartridge are subsidiaries of the Olin corporation.

According to a man power commission spokesman, no Negroes live in East Alton and that there are none working in two other war plants there.

Under the President's executive order forbidding employment discrimination in war industries, it is possible to cancel war contracts and withdraw WMC services from offenders.

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Firm Claims Town Is Hostile To Negro Help

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

Explains Reason For Hiring Only Whites

East Alton, Ill., Nov. 20 (AP)—The Western Cartridge Company asserted today that Negroes were not employed at its East Alton plant because of the hostile attitude of residents in the area and that it welcomed an investigation of its hiring practices.

Dean William H. Spencer, regional director of the War Manpower Commission at Chicago, requested such an investigation. In a letter to Elmer Henderson, regional director of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices, Spencer declared Western Cartridge Company never had hired a Negro in the Illinois plant.

The company in a statement pointed out that it employed Negroes in its other plants located in cities with a Negro population, such as at St. Louis or New Haven, Conn.

Refused to Seek Jobs.

However, the statement declared, there is no Negro population in East Alton or other towns in the immediate industrial area and "local residents have maintained a hostile attitude toward hiring of Negroes at Western Cartridge or other local industrial plants."

"The Negroes know this," the company asserted, "and they refuse to apply for jobs or come to us when referred by the U. S. Employment Service.

"We told the U.S.E.S., W.M.C., the War Department and other federal agencies that any attempt to hire Negroes would certainly result in at least a partial shutdown of our East Alton plant due to the refusal of many workers either to work with them or share the same transportation or eating facilities with them."

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala

FOUNDRY IS CLOSED BY RACIAL DISPUTE

CHICAGO, July 9—(AP)—Operations were suspended Friday at the East Chicago, Ind., cast armor plant of American Steel Foundries, the company said, when Negro employes refused to allow anyone to leave the work.

Albert Walcher, operating vice president, said a fight occurred Friday morning in which a Negro workman struck his white foreman. The workman was jailed.

Walcher said many garbled versions of the incident swept through the plant, which employes 53 per cent Negroes, and that as tension crew the Negro workers, virtually en masse, quit work and closed down the plant.

Representatives of the management and of the CIO United Steelworkers, which has a labor contract, conferred at once in an effort to quiet the ruffled racial feelings.

Walcher emphasized that no labor dispute was involved.

Demand Jobs For Negroes on Chicago Cars

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.
(Special to the Daily Worker)

CHICAGO, Aug. 30.—A committee of Negro and white representatives of organized labor will meet with Frederick Nolan, general manager of the Chicago Surface Lines at 10 A. M. Wednesday, Sept. 1, to discuss the question of motormen and conductors jobs for Negroes. Negro and white citizens representing church and civic groups will also be present.

Ishmael P. Flory, vice-president of the Chicago Council of the National Negro Congress, requested the meeting. He charged in making the announcement today that the Chicago Surface Lines, "by their policies of discrimination against Negroes, are weakening the nation's war effort."

Mr. Flory said that at a recent meeting of Chicago citizens John Burke, an employee of the Burkhartsmier Cooperage Co., here, charged that shortage of street cars because of lack of manpower was causing workers regularly to arrive at their jobs late.

NEEDED

There would be no lack of manpower to run the street cars if Negroes were hired, Mr. Flory said. An employee of the company is declared to have told complaining passengers that more than 200 operators are needed to relieve the shortage.

President Teale, of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees, Local 241, assured the National Negro Congress that his union did not bar workers because of race, creed or color and emphasized the fact that it had Negro members throughout the country.

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

Chicago Surface Lines Drop Jimcro Policy

WASHINGTON (FP)—Applications for [illegible] will be considered by the Chicago Surface Lines on the same basis as those of white persons, Chairman Malcolm Ross of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice said Oct. 27 and provided that Negroes under the company officially buried der 45 years who are hired its jimcro policy by announcing would be considered permanent that its first [illegible] employees, subject to missal at the end of the war.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

STREET CAR JOBS

Defender

The Chicago Defender offers its full dorsement to the campaign now un- r way to secure for Negro citizens s other than those of janitor and intenance-of-way men on the Chi- go surface lines, "L" and subway. e believe this campaign should be shed with the utmost vigor.

A general mobilization is needed. gorous action by the immediate spon- rs, plus the support of thousands of hite and Negro citizens who can be obilized behind the campaign can ing victory. This will be a victory over attitude and policy that breed riots d fascism.

Chicago, Ill.

That Mayor Kelly's Race Relations mmittee, headed by Edwin R. Embree the Julius Rosenwald fund, has an- unced its support for the campaign excellent. The committee, in selecting s as one of its starting points, has aced its fingers on one of the major ots of friction. This is one way for e committee to gain the support of egro Chicago en masse. And let it be id here that a break through on this nt can be a morale builder.

The National Negro Congress and e supporting community groups are be congratulated for dramatizing and inging this issue before the people rough a "Jobs for Negroes On Street rs Day."

All Chicago transportation lines are nchised by the city. It is therefore ar that Mayor Kelly himself will have direct interest in breaking down the scrimination which has prevented the groes from advancing past the lowly tus of janitor on Chicago surface es. Obviously this discrimination can stakenly be charged to a city gov- nment if that administration has no otest to offer when and where its citi- ns are treated in a fascist manner.

Frederick Nolan, general manager of e Chicago Surface Lines, is repre- ted as a patriotic citizen whose de- e it is to help win the war. Of course eds speak louder than words. We lieve Mr. Nolan will fight for a dem- ratic attitude if the case is presented rcibly and clearly.

Undoubtedly the presidents of the ions whose members work on these es, unions which have systematically cluded Negro Americans, also want nited democratic America. Who does t?

That Mr. Nolan and these union lead- ers have adamantly resisted every ef- fort made by the Negro people to de- stroy the un-American and subversive practice of discrimination which has grown up around Chicago transporta- tion lines is due to lack of understand- ing on their part. Such a strange con- tradiction must be made apparent. It can be ended. Anything is possible when men sincerely fight for democracy.

Millions of nickels from the pockets of Negroes are poured into the coffers of the transportation lines of this and every other American city. It is obvious that the demand now being made by Negro people in public utilities for bet- ter jobs is in keeping with their rights, with the aims of the war, with the lofty objectives of American democracy. But we do not raise the moral question. Let's have jobs for everybody where there are jobs for anybody in order to win the war.

Chicago can do it. Chicago will do it.

Chicago Fights To Get Street Car Jobs

Amsterdam Star-News

New York, N. Y.

CHICAGO, (ANP) — Raising the issue of "Jobs for Negroes in Chicago's Traction System as a War Necessity," the National Negro Congress and other community organizations launched a stirring campaign this week. Church groups including the Baptist Ministers conference, civic groups and labor unions including both AFL and CIO are energetically supporting the drive, according to Ishmael P. Flory labor leader and chairman of the congress committee which handling the project.

Streetcar Job Day

Several community meetings have been held which led up to a city wide mass meeting Sunday at Bethesda Baptist church which was designated as "Jobs for Negroes on Street Car Day." Speakers included Atty. C. Francis Stradford, president of the Chicago chapter National Negro Congress; Oscar Brown, president of the Chicago NAACP; A. L. Foster ,executive secretary of the Chicago Urban League; Herbert March of the CIO; Willis Thomas of the Federated Hotel Waiters, AFL, the Rev. A. Wells, pastor of Bethesda; Rev. Joseph Evans of Metropolitan Community church, and George Hutcheson of the Council of Negro Organizations.

In Deroit

Invited to speak were Mayor Edward J. Kelly, Frederick Nolan, general manager of the Chicago Surface lines and all presidents of unions with memberships on the surface lines. Mr. Flory announced that on Wednesday a conference will be held with Frederick Nolan, general manager of the Chicago Surface Lines. Mr. Nolan is a former manager of of the traction system in Detroit where at present Negro men and women are employed as conductors and motormen.

Mr. Flory stated, "Before 1933, no Negroes were employed on the surface lines at all. When the depression came a few literally took jobs as trackmen. The manpower shortage is expressing itself in very poor traction service which delays many war workers. Despite of this crisis, these companies do not even take applications from Negroes as conductors and motormen.

"Negroes are employed in the traction systems of New York, Detroit and Cleveland. The same should be true here with Negroes spending hundreds of thousands of dollars with the surface lines annually. Peritive action by the company would give a great boost to morale and unity in the interest of the war."

Argus

St. Louis, Missouri

Question Of Race Women Help Blamed

Company Speaker Says No Demands Were Made

Chipper[illegible] the General Steel Castings Corp. Armor plant in Venice, Ill., walked out Monday morning and were joined by other workers to a total of 400. A spokesman for the Company said it was classified as a wildcat strike by the CIO union, while a representative of the strikers stated it was because colored women were employed at the plant only in the capacity of janitresses.

The latest walkout is the third in recent weeks. Within a few hours a detachment of soldiers was around the plant which produces army tanks, anchors for ships, side frames for freight cars

A meeting of the strikers was held Tuesday night in Madison, Ill. A representative of the group stated that they had approached officials at the plant about putting Negro women in jobs [illegible] as checkers, pa[illegible] and in the tool [illegible] such as white women workers now hold. They stated the employers informed them that they had no facilities to accomodate Nergo women workers.

A spokesman for the company said that officials had heard a lot of rumors but no one could tell why the men really walked out as none of their representatives presented any request. The War Labor Board will not permit officials to meet a grievance committee while the workers are out.

The big steel mill is on the outskirts of the thick Negro settlement at Madison, Illionis employes about 1500 works about half of whom are Negroes.

VICTORY IS POSSIBLE

Defender

Chicago, Ill

Negroes are to be given a place without segregation or jim-crowism or discrimination in the ranks of the bus and surface lines employees in our city. This is a tremendous victory over every reactionary force in our city. It is such a victory as will weaken racial tensions and lessen the possibility of such a clash here as has disgraced Detroit, New York, and other cities.

We are particularly anxious to recommend a study of this victory to the Mayor's Racial Commission. We have spoken of this group before, outlining a number of programatical steps, but it seems not yet ready to move into action. This is running against it. The victory in traction, led by the National Negro Congress, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Urban League and other organizations, is evidence that where there is unity among the Negro people, merged with white progressive, victories can be obtained.

We can add to our productive forces at this time all the elements of our city who because of race, creed, or color have been discriminated against. But we must mobilize these forces themselves. We must mobilize their allies. We must clearly show each section of national unity that is responsible to back any campaign which draws any other section of national unity fully into America's productive apparatus.

The Mayor's committee may well look to the housing situation, hospitalization on the South Side, where great remedial steps which will end un-American practices can now be taken.

The Mayor's Committee must have a program, a definite program. It must concentrate on one or two questions and not try to cover the whole field. It must be a leader, not a follower. But above all, it must be prepared to fight. It must be prepared to fight every element that is un-American; and every element that is discriminatory in ts practices because of race, creed, or color is un-American.

ANOTHER BARRIER DOWN

Defender

Chicago, Ill

Well, so they're breaking down all over the place, and faced with a desperate labor shortage, they're finally hiring Negroes. The People's Light, Gas and Coke company is among the latest who have broken down the barriers. It took a war to do it—the great-

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

est war in history.

It's possible to look at this process pretty cynically. Exactly how big a war will we have to have before Negroes are appointed without discrimination to (1) jobs as railway conductors? (2) jobs as salesmen and salesgirls in the big department stores? (3) managerial positions? (4) teaching positions and professorships? Since it is difficult to imagine wars coming much bigger or bloodier than this one, the prospects are gloomy.

But of course, we can look at the same situation without cynicism as well. Human adaptations, once made, are always difficult to change. Once a civilization starts doing things a given way, it continues to do them that way even if it means busting up the civilization. As Alfred North Whitehead said: "A civilization that cannot burst through its current abstractions is doomed to sterility and destruction." Most civilizations of the past failed to break through their patterns of adaptation—and that is why they are civilizations of the past.

With us, it's a touch-and-go proposition. Now and then, as the result of war exigencies, we find some people breaking through, and re-adapting themselves to new conditions. On the other hand, there are others who, like "Cotton Ed" Smith, would just as soon see the civilization go to pot as make any fundamental change. Every day since war preparations began to play ducks and drakes with our national economy, we have seen the conflicting tendencies at work: The determination to make readaptations, and the determination to resist them.

The Defender is dedicated to the belief that the forward-looking men, the men capable of readaptation, are the ones who are going to win out. So we keep the score anxiously, often with sighs of despair, but often too with a burst of cheering. The victory at People's Gas and Light is a small one, but it's a step. "Even a journey of a thousand leagues," said an old Chinese philosopher, "consists of single steps."

Blast Phone Company Policy Of Discrimination

Defender
Chicago, Ill

The Illinois Bell Telephone company, which hires 25,000 employees, only 128 of whom are Negroes, is unwilling to grant full employment to Negroes in all capacities because it fears public opinion and probable reaction from white workers, J. N. Stanbery, general personnel director, told representatives of the Civil Liberties Committee and the National Negro Congress at a conference held Thursday at company headquarters, 225 W. Washington street.

Officials of the company indicated, however, that they are looking forward to some "slight expansion" of job opportunities for Negroes within the next few months, but declined to say in what capacities they would be used.

Stanbery revealed that within the past six months the company has been upgrading a few Negro women and that five are employed as tellers, six or seven as service representatives. All of these employees, however, are located in the segregated company office on Forty-seventh street. Only janitors are given jobs in the downtown offices.

"The telephone company has not made any real effort to integrate Negroes in the jobs, such as switchboard operators, for which it has a need as is indicated by daily advertisements for such workers," Ira F. Lattimore of the Civil Liberties committee declared. The committee is filing a complaint with the Fair Employment Practice Committee against the monopoly charging it, a war industry, with refusal to comply with the President's nondiscriminatory order, Lattimore added.

No Negroes are employed as operators, stenographers, coin box collectors, or page girls, Stanbery admitted.

Miss Bertha Tipton of the Congress told the Defender that she had the records of five girls who had applied for jobs as switchboard operators but who had been informed that the company did not hire Negroes in that capacity.

Stanbery said he had nothing against the employment of Negroes but that he believes it must be done as a gradual process. He lauded the work of a Negro employed in the research division of the Bell laboratories whom he said had done an outstanding job in helping develop an invention which will save money for the company and ultimately for the subscribers.

Miss Tipton said that the Thursday meeting was the first time the company had consented to hear Congress representatives although such a request had been made several months ago. She added that the officials insisted that the delegation be limited to three persons. The press was excluded.

35c-1943
The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Indiana

Jim Crowism Harms Labor; Thomas Warns Auto Workers

APR 28 1943

APR 28 1943

(The Worker Midwest Bureau)

INDIANAPOLIS, April 27.—Every member of the Chevrolet Commercial Body unit of the United Auto Workers here has received a letter from R. J. Thomas, international President of the union, strongly condemning any discrimination against Negroes.

The Chevrolet Commercial Body unit, after much propaganda and agitation believed to stem from Klan elements, voted recently to discriminate against employment of Negroes in the plant.

Thomas asked the membership to reconsider its action at the earliest possible opportunity.

"Such action," he wrote, "is unconstitutional. It could lead to the administration of the unit being taken over by the International Union. But it is not the purpose of this letter to you to discuss that possibility. What I am anxious to do is to explain to you—if you need such explanation—why your International Constitution states one of our principal objects is 'to unite in one organization, regardless of religion, race, creed, color, political affiliation or nationality, all employes under the jurisdiction of the International Union."

APR 28 1943

The explanation could have been strengthened greatly if it had not neglected to point out that discrimination aids Hitler by disrupting national unity. It confines itself to economic issues, but does make several important points.

APR 28 19

"In the United Automobile Workers," said Thomas, "we have met the situation head-on, face to face. We have declared again and again that we shall not discriminate against anyone because of his color. We have enlisted the support of Negro organizations in our behalf on a national basis. We have insured, in our own industry, that Negroes who work alongside of us shall have the same wages as we have—not lower wages because they are unorganized and weak."

APR 28 1943

The letter states forcefully:

"When you vote to prevent Negroes from working with you, you are just being a dupe for the boss. He is taking advantage of ancient prejudice and dislike to DIVIDE AND CONQUER LABOR—for make no mistakes about it, the Negro in America is labor, just as much as you are."

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

RAIL HEAD JOINS CRUSADE ON BIAS

FEB 13 1943

Speaks To Interracial Group In Indianapolis

INDIANAPOLIS — Harry Reid, president of Indianapolis Railways, Inc., declared that the company would not discriminate against any worker on account of race, creed or color.

FEB 13 194

Speaking before an inter-racial group, Mr. Reid stated that his company had been approached on another occasion when it was suggested that colored operators be employed on lines serving Negro areas. He pointed out that such a procedure would be contrary to established policy since all operators are called upon to serve various lines.

FEB 13 1943

The Indianapolis Railways operate under a close shop agreement with the international Amalgamated Association of Street Electric Railway and Moto. Coach Employees of America. Questioned on the possibility of the union rejecting Negro operators, Mr. Reid said the constitution of the union has a non-discriminatory clause, outlawing such practices."

Mr. Reid, commended the colored employees of the company and assured the group that the only requirement for any job with his company was the ability to do a job well.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

Racial Dispute Shuts Armor Plate Foundry

The huge cast steel plant of American Steel Foundries, 3200 Dickey avenue, East Chicago, Ind., employing approximately 3,000 workers engaged in the manufacture of armor plate for the army and navy, was shut down yesterday when hundreds of Negro workmen are said to have barricaded the doors and prevented operations. They were protesting the discharge of a Negro laborer who had slapped his white foreman when he was accused of stalling on the job.

Albert Walcher, operating vice president of the company, said many garbled versions of the affair, which occurred on the swing shift early yesterday were relayed to workers on the day shift, 53 per cent of whom are Negroes, and that as tension grew, they quit work virtually en masse and took over the plant, refusing to allow any one to leave the plant.

JUL 10 1943

Ordnance Men Arrive.

Army and navy ordnance officials were dispatched to the scene and met with company officials in an attempt to settle the issue. Representatives of the CIO United Steel Workers' union also entered the conference, altho they stressed that no labor dispute was involved.

The trouble was said to have originated in the annealing room when the foreman, Robert Van Camp, 28 years old, 5431 Webster avenue, Hammond, Ind., upbraided Clemmons James Allen, 24, of 23 West 22d avenue, Gary, Ind., the Negro workman. Allen, engaged as a chipper, was reported to have slapped the foreman twice before plant guards seized him and later turned him over to East Chicago police. Allen was booked on charges of assault and battery preferred by Van Camp.

Shortly after 7 a. m., when the day shift reported for duty, the Negroes were said to have massed themselves at the doorways and prevented other workers from entering or leaving. This condition prevailed, company officials said, until shortly after noon, when the plant shut down.

JUL 10 1943

Production Time Lost.

Meanwhile molten metal was dumped from the pots under the direction of plant foremen to prevent serious damage to the furnaces. Reheating of these furnaces and cleaning up the plant will require several days and cost the war effort a considerable amount of armor plate, company spokesmen said.

Approximately 150 workers, most of them Negroes, reported for work on the 3 p. m. shift yesterday, but were refused admittance.

CIO Steel Unionists Hit Discrimination

The Worker
New York, N. Y.

(The Worker Midwest Bureau)

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind.—A resolution opposing all forms of discrimination, including political, was passed unanimously by 600 delegates at the District 30 conference of the United Steelworkers of America, CIO.

The resolution marked a special contribution to national unity from a conference that geared all its actions to the winning of the war. Philip Murray, president of the CIO and the United Steelworkers, delivered a powerful address urging continued observance of labor's no-strike pledge and dramatically emphasizing the meaning of fascism to organized labor.

In the resolution attacking discrimination, the delegates resolved that "the United Steelworkers of America declares its firm opposition to any form of discrimination both social and economic in industry, in government and anywhere else on the basis of race, creed, color or political affiliation."

AIMED AT CLIQUE

Special mention was made of "a certain minority group in the United Steelworkers who refuse to accede to the international constitution and still persist in racial discrimination."

Murray placed responsibility for the Smith-Connally bill, squarely on the shoulders of John L. Lewis. He also devoted an important part of his speech to stressing the need for labor to mobilize politically in support of President Roosevelt's policies.

Van A. Bittner, assistant president of the Steelworkers, attacked Lewis as a disrupter of the war effort, and called upon the workers not to be provoked into strikes by the Smith-Connally Act.

James Robb, regional director for the union, introduced a cablegram to General Eisenhower, hailing the victories in Sicily as paving the way for invasion of Europe.

Other resolutions pledged support to the Casablanca decisions and to the Administration's stabilization program, including rollback of prices through subsidies.

35c-1943

Iowa

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

KILLING THE LOYAL WORKER

Garages in Des Moines, like other business institutions, are facing a shortage of mechanics. To a great extent, they have brought the trouble on themselves, because of the exclusion of sufficient apprentices. Then too, Negro employees have been restricted to the menial type of jobs. Employed in some of these jobs many years some of them are reasonably qualified as mechanics helpers if not mechanics. The unions have been so rotten that they objected to the Negro employees even lifting a wrench.

Recently, the union men at one garage, which has a closed shop agreement with the management, voted to give two Japenese mechanics a permit to work for thirty days, during which time the union would decide whether or not to admit them to membership.

The Bystander does not oppose the employment of these Japenese. They are American citizens and as such are entitled to make an honest living. But the Bystander does think the auto mechanics and the garages ought to give first consideration to the loyal Negro employees who have filled the poorly paid jobs heretofore, and find themselves passed by when the opportunity is presented for advancement.

35c-1943 Defender Chicago, Ill.

AFL-BRAND DEMOCRACY

dren of Monroe, Mr. and Mrs. D. Norris of Bastrop and Miss Mary Sa

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

SEP 18 1943

It has been called to our attention that some property owners of this vicinity are employing negro painters who have been imported in competition to members of this organization.

We believe that this procedure is inconsistent with the policies of WHITE SUPREMACY, and unfair to our members who are 100% citizens, property owners, and supporters of this community.

There is no excuse for this action as this local can furnish WHITE UNION workmen at any time.

PAINTERS LOCAL UNION NO. 901

SEP 18 1943

Office Phone 514

Business Agent's Residence Phone 5277

ODIS B. MOSES, President

JOHN B. BAILEY, Business Agent

An AFL Painters union advertisement in the Monroe, La., Morning World flaunts the doctrine of "white supremacy" by demanding that Negro painters be ousted from jobs and replaced by whites.

Louisiana

Dixie Bias Halts Funds For Project

SEP 25 1943

Defender Chicago, Ill.

SHREVEPORT, La. — Louisiana racial prejudice was dealt a severe blow last week when the federal works agency disapproved federal assistance to the City of Shreveport, which sought, through its mayor, Sam S. Caldwell, a federal grant of $7,000 for the erection of a health center on Milam street.

James W. Bradner, regional director of the agency at Fort Worth, Texas, said in part:

"Although the need for facilities of this type in Shreveport is fully recognized, the administration is unable to approve the project since the attitude of the applicant (city of Shreveport) in the matter of non-discrimination as to race, creed or color as required under the Lanham Act, appears to remain unchanged from that which necessitated refusal of a previous allotment for the construction of the health center."

The grant was made by the FWA in February of 1942. Provisions stipulated, however, that 12 per cent of the skilled labor and 80 per cent of the unskilled labor hired, must be Negroes. The city was required to add $15,000, and furnish the site. Mayor Caldwell has been announced as a gubernatorial candidate, election of which is to be held next year.

35c-1943
Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Refused War Jobs, They Clean Streets

APR 24 1943

BALTIMORE

By W. A. BROWER

One of the best examples that war industries are ignoring colored women as an available source of labor supply was offered this week when thirty-six women accepted jobs as cleaners with the city street cleaning department.

This was viewed by A. J. Allen, industrial secretary of the Baltimore Urban League, as a direct reflection on those war industries which still permit bias to influence their hiring policies.

If all able-bodied colored women are forced to accept municipal jobs as street cleaners, in the face of the crying need for women to fill men's jobs in war industries, it can be laid to only one reason—discrimination.

APR 24 1943

He pointed out that there is still need for stronger government implementation in the fight against discrimination in war industries, particularly since the weakening of the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

"Moral Suasion" Ineffective

He said that the "moral persuasion influences" of the Urban League and similar agencies and the War Manpower Commission have been ineffective in face of employers who seemingly have not yet realized the urgency of the employment situation.

APR 24 1943

It is estimated that of the total employment now in war industries only about 3 per cent of it is made up of colored women compared with about 20 per cent being composed of white women.

Last week, Walter Sondheim, Jr., State director of the United States Employment Service, admitted that his agency is experiencing difficulty in placing colored women in war jobs.

He promised, however, that USES would intensify its efforts to broaden employment opportunities for colored women.

APR 24 1943

Bias Complaints Increasing

During recent weeks the AFRO has received an increasing number of complaints from women who either answered advertisements by war industries or were referred to plants by the USES, only to receive flat turndowns.

Meanwhile, it was learned from William P. Fannon, white, engineer of the department, that "scores of applicants" are on the waiting list for jobs as city street cleaners.

APR 24 1943

The newly hired women are working in the northern, northeastern, eastern and the Fairfield sections of the city.

Working by themselves in crews containing only a male truck driver, some sweep the streets and others shovel the debris in trucks. This work was formerly done by all male crews.

Rate of Pay Kept Secret

Mr. Fannon said his department wished to keep the pay rates of these new employees from publication until assured that the new plan would work.

Scores of women have filed applications for the jobs since those hired Monday, he revealed, and an AFRO representative noted more than fifty waiting to sign up at the department's city hall office Wednesday morning.

One young woman, after being told by a clerk that there was little chance of immediate placement, accepted a job offered by the woman as a domestic in her home. Whether others were offered similar domestic work is not known.

APR 24 1943

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

NEGROES IN SCHOOL, SHIP WORKERS QUIT

Sparrows Point Yard Is Closed as Thousands Oppose Giving Them Course in Riveting

By The Associated Press.

BALTIMORE, July 30—Several thousand workers left their jobs at the Bethlehem Steel Company's Sparrows Point shipyard today as the result of a controversy over attendance of Negro students at a training school for riveters, and the yard was ordered closed until Monday.

JUL 31 1943

A spokesman for the company issued this statement:

"The Bethlehem-Sparrows Point shipyard closed at noon today and will remain closed until Monday morning because of an issue arising from racial matters."

The spokesman added that conferences were held throughout the day by L. F. Rye, conciliator for the Department of Labor; officials of the company, and representatives of the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, CIO.

They hope to reach a settlement before Monday, he said.

No Difference Over Wages

F. A. Hodge, manager of the shipyard, said the yard was shut down at 11:30 A. M. with the approval of the Maritime Commission after "intermittent strikes on the part of certain groups of employes during the past few days."

He asserted that employes had stopped work "because of differences between some white and colored employes" at the yard, but that the shutdown was effected "in an orderly manner and employes left the yard peacefully."

"It is extremely regrettable that these strikes occurred and that it has been necessary to take action to avoid a serious disturbance," Mr. Hodge said.

"These strikes were in no way a result of any differences regarding wages, hours or working conditions. The company has an agreement with the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, CIO, to which both groups belong, which provides an orderly procedure for the handling of all grievances without resorting to strikes.

JUL 31 1943

"This company has not and will not discriminate against any employe because of race, creed, color or membership in any lawful organization.

"All we can add is that we are hopeful that the employes, in the interest of our country's war effort, will reconcile their differences and will return to work at their jobs when the yard opens Monday morning."

Maryland

2,260 Out at Highland Park

DETROIT, July 30 (U.P.)—The Ford Motor Company's Highland Park plant producing M-4 tanks, was shut down today by a strike of 2,260 workers, the fourth stoppage in two days to hit Michigan's war-busy factories.

JUL 31 1943

Called to protest the dismissal of a union shop committeeman, the Ford walkout followed settlement of strikes of 10,500 workers at three other plants—the Timken-Detroit Axle Company, and Essex Wire Corporation, Detroit, and the Continental Motors Company, Muskegon.

Local 400 of the United Automobile Workers, CIO, representing the strikers, said it would issue a statement later regarding the stoppage, which started, the company said, with 1,400 day shift workers and was joined by 860 night workers.

Earlier today 1,500 employes of the Essex Corporation returned to their jobs after walking out to support demands for wage increases.

Three thousand workers at the Timken-Detroit plant and strikers at the Continental factory voted at a mass meeting last night to end their strikes. The Timken strike was called to protest the discharge of a shop steward and the Continental strike to protest a recent regional War Labor Board decision.

JUL 31 1943

800 Textile Workers Strike

LYNCHBURG, Va., July 30 (AP)—Eight hundred workers at the Consolidated Textile Corporation's Lynchburg plant, which is largely engaged in war production, were on strike today.

Otto Hammock, president of Local 549, Textile Workers Union of America, CIO, said the company had not set a date for the payment of back wages alleged to have been due under a pay adjustment, and charged that the company "speeded up" machinery last weekend by adding to the number of teeth in a gear connected to about forty machines.

I. L. Langley, vice president in charge of operations, said the back pay charge was based entirely on "rumor" and that the change in the gear would have the effect of increasing output by only 1 per cent, since only one gear tooth was added.

Company and union officials said they were awaiting the arrival of a Federal conciliator.

JUL 31 1943

Negro workers use the same sanitary facilities.

The balloting was conducted by Bernard J. Seff, field examiner for the National Labor Relations Board, which ordered the vote upon petition of the Point Breeze Employes' Association (independent).

Under provisions of the Smith-Connally Act, the results of a strike vote are certified to the NLRB, the War Labor Board, the Department of Labor and the President. A hearing then is set for discussion by all parties involved before occurrence of an actual work stoppage.

The result of the vote was reported at 60.5 per cent favoring a strike, 39.5 per cent opposed and .1 per cent of the ballots void.

The controversy which resulted in today's balloting began last month when approximately 1200 employes petitioned the company for separate washrooms for white and Negro workers.

JUL 26 1943

Foreman Fired; Bias Charged to Project

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

BALTIMORE

Charges of rank discrimination against colored workers on the Glenn Mar Gardens Housing Project and the firing of a carpenter foreman, who protested, were placed before the Federal Public Housing Authority this week by the Urban League.

The League seeks to reinstate Foreman Theodore Knowles of 573 Pressman Street, member of Local 544, of the A.F.L.'s Carpenters' Union, on the contention that he was unjustly ousted.

Barred from Tool House

Trouble is said to have arisen on the project, which is at Middle River and under construction by the Mukleman and Kayhoe Company of Richmond, Va., early in May, when white carpenters, members of the A.F.L. Local 101 Carpenters Colored Local 544. Approximately 52 colored carpenters are included in the 1,000 men employed on the project.

Knowles was then advised to build more tool boxes. They are still without a tool house, despite the protests of Knowles.

Canteen Discrimination

Last Tuesday, colored workmen were barred from entering the canteen and were advised that they could be served through a side window.

One reason given, according to Knowles, was that the manage-

JUN 26 1943

New York, N. Y.

PM

Washington Dispute Brings Strike Vote At Maryland Firm

Baltimore, Oct. 5 (AP).—With less than 50 per cent participating, employes of the Point Breeze plant, Western Electric Co., voted today for "interruption of work" at the factory because both White and

Strike for Jim Crow Toilets Laid to Company by Union

Washington, D. C. Post

OCT 6 - 1943

PM's

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6.—The haphazard construction of the Smith-Connally Act has allowed 1800 employes of the Western Electric Co., Baltimore plant, to vote a strike of the entire payroll—6371 workers—on the issue of Jim Crow toilets for Negroes.

Only 2976 eligibles voted, of which 1174 declared themselves against the walkout.

On Sept. 13, Horace L. Russell, trial examiner for (NLRB) National Labor Relations Board submitted an intermediate report which recommended that the company be ordered to cease and desist from dominating or recognizing the union which conducted the vote, the Pt. Breeze Employes Assn., Inc. It further recommended that the union be disestablished.

The United Electrical and Radio Workers, CIO, has been attempting to organize the Baltimore plant of Western Electric, so far without success. In a statement following announcement of the strike vote, the union declared that the results of the balloting "clearly indicates the need for immediate repeal of the Smith-Connally Act which could allow a situation where an illegal company union could use a Government agency to commit an entire war plant to a strike."

The UERW claims that if its sound truck had not been prevented from coming to the plant and urging the workers not to vote, strike the result would have been different. It blames the Mayor's office of Baltimore, which barred the presence of the loud-speaker truck.

"We are hopeful," it adds, "that the majority of Western Electric workers will see fit to repudiate the strike. It is still not too late to withdraw support from this move and denounce it for what it is, a treasonable effort to interrupt war production and an incitement to race riot."

Phony Union Incites Anti-Negro Strike

OCT 1 - 1943

Daily Worker

New York, N. Y.

(Special to the Daily Worker)

BALTIMORE, Md., Oct. 5.—The disruptive anti-victory effects of the Smith-Connolly Act were again demonstrated here yesterday when Western Electric Company employes voted for a strike to enforce separate sanitary facilities for white and Negro workers. The strike proposal sponsored by the recently discredited company union, was bitterly fought by the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, CIO.

Two UE workers arrested for use of a sound truck in appealing for a no-strike vote, face trial in a local court tomorrow.

Several weeks ago, an NLRB trial examiner ordered dissolution of the Point Breeze Employes Association because of company domination. In an obvious attempt to check the rapid progress of the CIO organizing drive at Western Electric and incidentally to "prove" its "independence," this company union resorted to wholy artificial Negro-baiting tactics. The Western Electric plant has been notably free of racial discrimination in employment and characterized by close fraternal relations between white and Negro workers.

OCT 7 1943

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

In seeking to prevent a work stoppage the UE had the opposition, not only of the Point Breeze Company Union, but apparently also of local and federal government officials and the company itself. The CIO union wired FBI director Edgar Hoover, calling for immediate investigation of the strike instigators. This appeal was referred to Attorney General Biddle who, of course, took no action. It was the attorney general's recent reactionary decision on the Smith Connolly Act which laid the basis for precisely this kind of strike provocation by any dissenting minority in a plant.

The union also applied to the mayor's office for permission to use a sound truck in appealing to workers to vote against the proposed strike. After talking to officials of the Western Electric Co. the Mayor's secretary rejected the application.

In response to inquiries from the Daily Worker, Leon Deane, director of the UE organizing drive in Baltimore, stated that fewer than half the eligible voters cast ballots and that only about 60 percent voted "yes" to the strike proposal.

"The UE," he says, "will continue its no-strike education campaign at Western Electric during the 30 day waiting period before a strike can be called. The union will also contest strongly the legality of the arrest of its workers for using a sound truck in seeking to prevent a strike vote against the urgent needs of interrupted war production."

Bethlehem Workers Return To Work After Walk-Out Because Negroes Were Refused To Training Classes

AUG 14 1943

New York Age

New York, N. Y.

SPARROWS POINT, Md. Workers, Negro and White, were back on their jobs at the Bethlehem Steel Shipbuilding Company at Sparrows Point, Maryland this week after several days of walk-outs and negotiations involving a training course in riveting set by the company.

The training course has been reopened on its original basis available to all regardless of race creed or color.

The settlement was put into operation Monday when the union involved--International Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers (IUMSW-CIO)—the company and the workers themselves reached an agreement with the aid of Clarence Mitchell, representative of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice and Julius M. Gardner, regional representative of the War Manpower Commission.

The executive board of the union--Local 33— met Sunday and voted for reopening of the riveting school on a non-discriminatory basis after two six-man committees of Negro and white workers had failed, in three days of conferring, to reach agreement on the question.

AUG 14

The company, which had opened the school a week before and had closed it down under pressure from white workers, promptly launched the course again and Monday Negroes were being trained.

The trouble originated Monday, (July 26) when white employees in the company's riveting department walked off their jobs in protest against the training program, which included Negroes. The company immediately met with the white workers, pointed out the need for a 50 per cent increase in production in the riveting department. When the white workers offered to guarantee this increase, the management agreed to close the school.

Negro workers in the plant immediately walked out in protest against the schools closing and after a conference with them, the management agreed to reopen the course.

This was on last Friday but strong protests from the white workers caused the management to close down the yard "to prevent violence." The three-day conference of the two union committees and the union local's executive board meeting followed.

Monday morning the majority of workers of both races reported to work and, although some of the white workers walked off the job again, the yard continued operations, with state, county and company police present to insure order.

On Tuesday, the absent whites workers returned to their jobs after the union had threatened to discipline any members who walked out.

Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

2 Bethlehem Workers Call Guards Brutal

NOV 20 1943

Lawyer Testifies That They Are Too Quick to Use Blackjacks

NOV 27 BALTIMORE

A case of guard brutality at Bethlehem Fairfield Shipyard was brought to light this week when two workers were beaten, arrested and given hearings at Southern police station.

John McMillan, 23, of 1221 E. Lexington Street, accused by M. E. Dennenburg, the guard, of being disobedient, was given a $5 suspended sentence.

He testified that on returning from the dispensary where he had been treated for an eye injury, he stood near the front of the check-out line and the guard, instead of asking for his button, began dragging him toward the guard-house where he struck and then arrested him.

Kicked, Dragged

William Harris, 26, of 1104 N. Bond Street, had his case continued until Monday. He admitted that he walked toward the clock house before the second whistle had blown, but added that when he was struck and kicked by the guard asked for his badge, he gave it to him immediately.

Not satisfied with this, he said, the guard kicked and dragged him to the guard house.

Dennenburg testified that Harris said, and then struck him, knocking his glass eyes off.

Attorney Testifies

Duke Avnet, attorney for Local 43 of the CIO, of which the men are members, testified that when guards are too quick to seize on petty things and use their blackjacks, sticks, and make arrests.

Both the union and the plant management are anxious to decide minor infractions locally, he said, and they regret all of the difficulty they are having with guards.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

35c-1943
Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Discrimination Vote Threatens Defense Plant

OCT 16 1943

Workers Want Separate Sanitary Facilities Setup

BALTIMORE, (ANP)—A strike for separate facilities for Negro and white workers at the Western Electric Company Point Breeze plant was voted last week under provisions of the Smith-Connally anti-strike legislation.

With less than half of the nearly 7,000 employes of the plant voting, 60.5 favored a strike and 39.4 dissented, with 0.1 of the ballots ruled void.

The voting was held under the supervision of Bernard J. Seff, white, field examiner for the National Labor Relations Board, which ordered the vote on petition of the Point Breeze Employes' Association. A petition of about 1,600 of its members declared they were opposed to the same sanitary facilities for both races at the plant.

Company Policy O. K.

The Western Electric management has long been recognized for its liberal policy in adhering to Presidential Order 8802, which prohibits discrimination in war industries on account of race, creed, color or national origin, and has steadfastly refused to establish separate facilities at the behest of what is believed to be a minority of the white employes.

The company's officials have insisted that they believed their policy was efficacious and workable and even after the results of the balloting had not given any indication that they would institute a change.

NLRB To Act

Under the conditions of the Smith-Connally act, the strike vote has to be certified by the NLRB, the War Labor Board, the Department of Labor and the President, and hearing is then set for discussion of all parties involved before the actual work stoppage is begun.

Opposes Move

The United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, CIO, which attempting to organize workers in the plant, went on record as opposing the work stoppage and condemning the action of the independent union.

The employes' association was ordered dissolved by the NLRB, in September, as the bargaining agency for the employes, because, the federal board charged, it was company dominated.

Maryland

Negroes Hounded At Sparrows Point

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.
NOV 17 1943

By Art Shields

Some Bethlehem Steel Co. officials seem to have learned nothing from the recent "White Supremacy" disorders that closed the Sparrows Point shipyards near Baltimore for several days last summer.

Such officials still spread race poison, still hamper the war effort by treating Negroes like dirt.

Latest instance of such treatment was told by two New York Negro youths, who shipped out of this city for jobs at Sparrows Point.

Monte Norris of 362 West 123 St., one of the boys was shipped to Baltimore from Bethlehem's office at 102 Chambers St. He was promised a job at 80½ cents an hour as a "learner."

His friend, Boyd Campbell, a spray painter of 237 Lenox Ave., was shipped from the United States Employment Service at 44 East 23 St. to the Point at a promise of $1.20 an hour.

But when they got to Baltimore they were told they would have to work for much less.

NOV 17 1943

TREATED LIKE DIRT

That isn't their main beef, however.

Their main beef is that they were treated like dirt.

Their story is part of the bitter, every-day saga of the Negro people in America today.

Mr. Norris and Mr. Campbell got the first bad news when they reported at the Bethlehem office at Howard and Lombaro Sts., Baltimore.

The learner was told he would start at 70½ cents an hour, instead of the promised 80½ cents. And the painter was told that the $1.20 an hour job was good for only two days a week, with an 80½ cent rate for other work the other four days.

They were to meet the interviewer, a stocky gray man named Mulholland, again a half hour later.

They had gone to the "W. B. & A." restaurant across the street with six white Bethlehem recruits they had met on the train. The restaurant man had refused to serve the colored men. The whites had walked out with them. And they all went back to the Bethlehem office to ask where they could get something to eat.

NOV 17 1943

"WHITE SUPREMACY" TALK

And this is what they got, Norris said:

"My dear man," said the Bethlehem representative to Norris. "you have crossed over the Mason and Dixon Line, and that means that you may be called 'N—r,' and there's nothing you can do about it, because down here you people have your place and we people have our place.

"The only place where you will be able to get anything to eat will be at the shipyard, where you will find white toilets, labeled 'white toilets,' and colored toilets. The cafeteria will be divided into the whites' section and a colored section. And whatever you do (here his voice became hard), don't sit in the white section."

That will bring "trouble," he said. The interviewer added that—

"We have a lot of fool union men down here, trying to organize the whites and blacks together without discrimination. So stay away from them or you'll get yourself in serious trouble."

NOV 17 1943

Then promising them "room and board" at the Point, the interviewer left them.

BETHLEHEM'S BEDS

The Steel Company's "room and board" at Sparrows Point, 20 miles away, consisted of the hard floor of an attic room over the "Northside Lunch Room," and a pig foot and hunk of bread each.

The hard floor was their bed without sheets, blankets or pillows.

And the pig foot and butterless bread was their supper. No coffee was furnished.

Norris said that four other colored men, sleeping in double-decker bunks in the room, said the boys were luckier than they had been at first.

"They told us they had to sleep in the woods for a week, when they came to work last August. They didn't get bunks till a few days ago."

After a skimpy gravy and bread breakfast next morning the boys went to the plant to get buttons at 7 A.M. and asked the personnel man for better room and board. And he coldly replied that the company had 7,000 other Negroes and they could like it or

NOV 17 1943

The boys had reminded him that they were promised adequate food and housing. And when they could not get it they asked their fare back to New York.

They got nothing but a hike back to Baltimore on foot—20 miles.

TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT

Then followed a fruitless visit to Bethlehem's Mulholl and again. And one to the War Manpower Commission next, where a Mr. Douty called in Mulholland, who stubbornly said:

"That's all the room and board we have for these peoiple. If they want to work we got a job for them. It won't be the wage scale they were promised in New York, but it will be a job."

At the War Manpower man's advice they visited the Urban League, where they were told the company had promised fare home. But at the Sparrows Point plant, where they were sent for the fare the personnel man refused them transportation, and said:

"Why don't you stop being high 'toney?

"Go back on that room and take the job."

NOV 17 1943

The Urban League promised to fight the case if the youths would stay in Baltimore. But they hadn't any money. So they borrowed the fare back to New York.

They would like to work in war industry, they said, but want to be treated like men.

And every American should back them in that.

Makers of Lux Advertise for 'White' Girls

afro-American,
Baltimore, Maryland

AUG 28 1943

Personnel Manager Says "No Equipment for Colored" Exists

AUG 28 1943

NO COLOR BARS AT SALES COUNTERS

AUG 28 1943

Lever Brothers Also Make Rinso, Lifebuoy and Swan Soap

BALTIMORE. — Lever Brothers' Company, makers of Lux Flakes and Toilet Soap, Rinso Lifebuoy, Swan's Soap and glycerine, is advertising for "GIRLS—WHITE," to pack soap, for which they will earn $32.50 for 48 hours of work.

AUG 28 1943

Albert W. Lampall, personnel manager, at the plant, 5300 Holabird Avenue, said the company is restricting employment to white women because there is "no equipment" for colored.

AUG 28 1943

Asked to explain what he meant, he said, that if colored women were hired, the company would have to maintain separate lockers and "larger equipment."

No Sales Discrimination

Robert Doonan, head of the sales division, which does not discriminate on account of race or color when Lever Brothers' products are sold, told the AFRO he was not aware of the discriminatory hiring policy at the Holabird Avenue plant.

He said the company's policy is dictated by the main plant in Cambridge, Mass.

Here's a facsimile of the advertisement:

GIRLS—WHITE
16 TO 40 YEARS
$32.50 FOR 48-HR. WEEK

Steady work in an essential industry. Excellent working conditions for the production and packing of soap. Free insurance, sick benefits and vacation with pay. Weekly rotating shifts. Plant located near car line. Take No. 20 Point Breeze car to Holabird ave.

LEVER BROTHERS CO.
5300 Holabird Ave.

Makers of Lux Flakes, Lux, Toilet Soap, Rinso, Lifebuoy, Swan's Soap and Glycerine. Persons now employed in war industry will not be considered.

Negro clerks are barred from jobs as window clerks.

No Negro clerks are assigned to any one of the 40 sub-stations.

Negro clerks with high seniority have been told Raymond A. C. Young, head of the local chapter and vice-presidents of the national body, that in-charge is named to act in the absence of a foreman.

Colored men working as clerks are assigned to temporary heavier tasks than those assigned to whites.

Colored men working as motor vehicle servicemen always get half-hour swing assignments.

Baltimore P. O. Under Inquiry

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Race Discrimination in Department Cited by Alliance Chapter

BALTIMORE, (ANP)—Postmaster General Frank C. Walker has been asked by the local chapter of the National Alliance of Postal Employes to investigate alleged race discrimination in the local post office.

A duplicate of the report, made in August to Postmaster Neal A. Sibley, in which sweeping charges of racial bias were listed, was forwarded last week to the postmaster general in Washington, with the request that he take remedial action in the situation.

Action Reason for Delay

At the time the report was submitted to Mr. Sibley, he is reported to have told Raymond A. C. Young, head of the local chapter and vice-presidents of the national body, that he would take steps to correct the unjust conditions. It is believed that his delay in carrying out his pledge prompted the alliance officials to appeal to Mr. Walker.

Cite Evidence

Among the charges cited by the Alliance are

Transit Co. Turned Them Down



AUG 21 1943

Afro-American
Baltimore, Marylan

These three men, all of whom are experienced drivers, were refused jobs last week by the Baltimore Transit Company because of their color. They were told they could work only as cleaners or porters. These men are now employed as drivers on busses to Edgewood, but they want to operate trolleys and busses in their own city. Left to right, they are, Lillywood Counts, Albert Jenifer and Robert Smith.

35c-1943

Massachusetts

Springfield's Afro-American War Plants Bar Colored

Baltimore, Maryland
SEP 2, 1943

SPRINGFIELD, Mass.—Despite the manpower shortage created by the war, and the outlawing of discrimination in war industries by Executive Order 9143, the Springfield Dar Department division refueses to hire colored, leaders revealed here Monday.

Colored workers are barred from many war shops, and in many of the plants where they are hired, are given the heavier and less skilled jobs.

Colored leaders stated that despite the fact that the colored population of the city has increased about 43 per cent in the past year, local stores and offices are still clinging to the discriminatory policy of employment.

It was stated, however, that mnay local industrialists are gaining a new respect for the colored man as a worker. Many have hired persons without regard for color, and have found among those they formerly barred fine workers destined to keep their jobs in peacetime.

Springfield Armory

Among the plants where colored are hired is the Springfield Armory. Here, about 800 colored persons are working, 500 of whom are women. Many colored workers hold technical jobs and are being upgraded rapidly.

It was revealed, however, that the heavy influx of persons from the South, New York and New Jersey, has resulted in strained relations between the native colored and the newcomers, and also has produced a hightened awareness of racial barriers.

These two unfavorable reactions, it was stated, are being combatted by local citizens. A limited educational program is being conducted to integrate the newcomers into the local living pattern. Recreational programs for both service men and civilians are being provided through the USO and the YMCA.

Daily Worke
New York, N

Lynn Labor To Fight Bias

LYNN, Mass., Aug. 31.—The delegates to the Lynn Council of Labor, representing 40,000 workers organized into the CIO, AFL and Independent unions, unanimously pledged support to the efforts of the city officials in stamping out anti-racial and anti-religious propaganda in this large industrial center.

SEP 1 1943

Recent action to oppose racial and religious intolerance in the city was stimulated by the resolution of the General Council of the huge GE Union of the United Electrical Radio and Workers. This Local pledged to press charges of "conduct unbecoming a member" against any union member found guilty of circulating anti-racial and anti-religious literature.

SEP 1 1943

This action was followed up by Edward D. Callahan, chief of the Lynn Police Department, who sent out letters to all printing establishments in the city requesting that they refuse to reprint any material of anti-racial or anti-religous nature and further that they obtain the name and address of any person requesting the printing of such material.

The Lynn Council of Labor endorsed the action taken by Chief Callahan in characterizing as Axis propaganda all literature intended to divide the American people on religious, racial or color lines.

NOV 7 1943

35c-1943

Michigan

Asks FEPC To Probe Situation

UAW Leader Charges Packard Official Foments Race Strife

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

JUN 19 1943

DETROIT, Mich., June 10—R. J. Thomas, president, UAW-CIO, requested the U. S. Army Air Corps to discharge C. E. Weiss, vice president, Packard Motor Car company, in charge of personnal. Thomas asked the Army also to remove George Swartz, Packard general foreman, and Herbert Watts, employed in the personnel division.

The UAW leader accused Weiss, Schwartz and Watts of deliberately promoting racial discrimination in the plant and of urging white workers to refuse to work with three Negroes who were qualified by seniority and training for upgrading to machine jobs.

ASK FOR FEPC PROBE

Thomas said also that he has asked the Department of Labor to certify the Packard incident to the War Labor Board as a labor dispute, and that he would request the Fair Employment Practice Committee to make an investigation of the situation.

Thomas' statement said:

"Last week there were a number of incidents in the Packard plant which led to interruption of vital war production. The situation was caused by the refusal of white workers to work with three Negroes who had been up-graded in accordance with their skill and seniority.

"Some Negro workers, resenting this unfair treatment, refused to work.

"The International union, in cooperation with Packard Local 190, UAW-CIO, prevailed on the Negro workers to return to their jobs. Last Sunday at a meeting of Packard Local 190, I informed the membership that it was the position of the International union that the Negro workers must be permitted to work on the jobs to which they were entitled.

"When the men entered the plant Sunday night and the Negro workers appeared to take their places at their machines, C. E. Weiss, Schwartz and Watts appeared and urged the white workers to ignore the position of the local union and international union officers. These company spokesmen—Weiss claiming to speak for George Christopher, president of Packard—said that white workers did not have to work with the up-graded Negroes if they did not choose to do so."

35c-1943

Minnesota

Refuses To Employ Negro Women, Rapped By NAACP

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

AUG 27

ST. PAUL — (ANP) — For refusing to employ Negro women in its South St. Paul plant the Cudahy Packing Company was criticized by the local branch NAACP in a strongly worded resolution adopted at its regular meeting in the Hallie Q. Brown House last week.

Frank Boyd, chairman of the labor committee, said that a detailed report on the company would be presented to the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices, while the N. A. A. C. P. membership went on record to boycott Cudahy products.

George F. Atwell, executive board member of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee (CIO), told the assemblage of his repeated efforts to influence the company to hire Negro women but he said the company continued to make a "humbug of the matter."

"When the matter first came up," he said, "company officials said that the white union workers would not work with the Negro women, although Negro men are employed. We gave the lie to that by sending an open letter to the company urging them to employ Negro women."

SEP 1943

Packing Firm Will Not Hire Colored Girls

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

SEP 11 1943

ST. PAUL, (ANP)—For refusing to employe colored women in its South St. Paul plant the Cudahy Packing Company was criticized by the local branch NAACP in a strongly worded resolution adopted at its regular meeting in the Hallie Q. Brown House.

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SEP 18 1943

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"When the matter first came up," he said, "company officials said that the white union workers would not work with the colored women, although colored men are employed."

PICKET FOR JOBS

ST. LOUIS. — (ANP) — In protest against the Southwestern Bell Telephone company's failure to employ Negro women as telephone operators, about 100 men and women, representing the March on Washington movement, picketed the building Saturday at noon.

Argus

St. Louis, Missouri

SEP 24 1943

205 Jam Phone Co. At Once Paying Bills As Protest To Job Denials

Considerable excitement was caused at the Bell Telephone Building at 10:30 a. m. on Saturday morning, September 18th when 205 members of the March On Washington's picket committee showed up at one time to pay their telephone bills enmasse. Many of the March On Washington pickets paid their telephone bills in pennies. This was designed slow up the process of collection. However, some one had evidently informed officials of the telephone company that this technique would be used and the cashiers had been equipped with individual money sacks into which such payments were raked subject to later verification. During the demonstration practically all of the officials of the telephone company gathered on the mezzanine balcony and watched the irate Negro telephone subscribers show their resentment against the undemocratic employment policy of the telephone company through this non-violent technique.

T. D. McNeal, Director of the March Movement, after the demonstration stated that it was a completely successful project in that it again dramatized this un-Aemircan situation and forcibly called to the attention of the telephone management the fact that Negro citizens here have an abiding determination to see this fight against the telephone company through no matter how long a time for what sacrifice might be entailed.

35c-1943
New York Age
New York, N. Y.

Old Gold Factory Accused Of Bias Against Negroes

JAN 30 1943

JERSEY CITY, N. J. — After a walkout on Monday of Negro employees of the P. Lorillard Co., makers of Old Gold cigarettes and other popular brands, which ended in a shut-down of the plant when whites joined them in sympathy, protesting workers returned to work on Tuesday when it was revealed at a meeting that representations have been made to the War Labor Board and a conference scheduled for February 2nd.

The Lorillard plant at 111 First street, has over 1,700 workers, all of whom are members of Local 218 Tobacco Workers International Union, AFL.

Negro members charged at a protest meeting Monday night, that the plant has two cafeterias, one for whites, one for Negroes; that Negroes receive 47½ cents an hour for work paying whites 62 cents to 82 cents an hour, and that Negroes are paid less than white workers in the same classifications.

When it was disclosed that representations had been made to the WLB on the discrimination question, the Negro and white workers voted to return to work pending the conference set for February 2nd in which union and company officials will confer with the board.

New York Age
New York. N. Y

Jersey's Refusal To Hire Negroes On Bus Lines Is Criticized

MAR 20 1943

NEWARK, N. J.—In spite of the ever increasing manpower problem, which may result in a Northern New Jersey transportation breakdown, the Public Service Corporation continues in its refusal to hire Negroes, it was charged here last week. This undemocratic policy was the subject of a letter from Leonard H. Goldsmith, national CIO representaive in this state, written to Joseph E. Conlon president of the Public Utilities Commission and to the officials of the main federal war agencies.

MAR 20 1943

In his letter, Goldsmith said, "The shortage of the bus drivers is caused by the refusal of the major bus companies, particularly Public Service Corporation, to utilize a huge untapped sources of labor supply. This sources of manpower is our Negro citizens who have been systematicaly kept from employment as bus drivers. These thousands of Americans have been discriminated against by Public Service Corporation and as a result Public Service comes weeping to the public, asking us to be patient with their poor service because there is a manpower shortage. The results of a survey made by the CIO show that there is not one Negro employed as a bus driver by Public Service Corporation and this is true of most of the other major bus companies."

JAN 30 1943

Mayor Murphy Vows Aid in Jim Crow Fight

New York, N. Y
Daily Worker
SEP 1 1943

NEWARK, Aug. 31.—With the pledge of "all help in my power" from Mayor Vincent Murphy, the New Jersey Negro Labor Victory Commitee launched its program of activity Monday night at a dinner forum at Essex House.

The Mayor was a principal speaker in a program that included talks by Jacob C. Baer president of the Essex Trades Council, AFL, Irving Abramson president of the State CIO, Moran Weston of the New York Labor Victory Committee, and Ferdinand Smith, secretary of the National Maritime Union.

SEP 1 1943

James B. Marshall, executive secretary of Local 68 Building Service Union, AFL, was toastmaster.

"The Negro Labor Victory Committee has a big job on its hands," Mayor Murphy said. "And the trade union movement is the best place in which to start to do the job effectively.

"I have been in the trade union movement for 30 years and those among you who have also given your years of service to it know that we have met and to a great extent defeated religious discrimination. We must attack the matter of racial discrimination with the same unity and the same determination and we shall.

said. "We must do ours on the home front. Just as no army in the field can win a battle if its forces are divided, similarly on the home front, we cannot expect to obtain the Four Freedoms if we are divided or permit ourselves to be led astray by false leaders, like John L. Lewis, who have private axes to grind.'

The chairman of the committee in charge was Thomas Edgerton of the executive board of Local 92 International Union of Gas, Coke & Chemical Workers and financia secretary of the Hudson County CIO.

"You may depend upon me to give you all the help in my power. You may call upon me at any time to meet with you if I can be of any assistance in solving this problem. We must have people in public office who will meet the challenge and I, for one, am ready to meet it."

Baer and Abramson also extended to the gathering of 200 trade union leaders of the state their pledge of aid, stressing in particular the efforts of the labor movement together with other liberal elements in state and nation to bring about passage of anti-poll tax legislation.

SEP 1 1943

Weston declared that the manpower problem now faced by wartime industry cannot be solved "unless and until we, the Negro people, are fully integrated into the war effort."

More than 2,100,000 trade unionists are in the armed forces, Smith asserted.

"They are doing [illegible] job," he

35c-1943
Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Says Union Ship Crews Drop Color Bar

Claims Maritime Commission Non-Cooperative

JAN 2 -

NEW YORK —(ANP)— Citing victories gained during the year, 1942, against discrimination in the maritime industry, the National Maritime Union last week went on record as pledging itself to continue the fight as long as necessary against anti-democratic policies and fascist tendencies on the part of some shipowners.

Declaring that discrimination looks "particularly ridiculous today" in the light of the government pamphlet "Manpower" in which Paul V. McNutt, WMC chairman; Donald M. Nelson, head of the War Production Board; Frank Knox, Secretary of the Navy, and Robert Patterson, Acting Secretary of War, declare that:

"Every time you pass over a Negro worker, for no other reason than his color, either in hiring or in promotion, you place an obstacle in the path of all-out production," the maritime union pledged that members and officers would continue to act under the mandate issued by President Roosevelt last January which said in effect that questions of race, creed or color have no place in determining who are to man American ships.

Despite the President's order which also stated: "The sole qualifications for a worker in the maritime industry, as well as in any other industry, should be his loyalty and his professional or technical ability and training," U. S. Maritime Commissioner Emory S. Land has refused to seriously consider pleas of the union on questions of discrimination, union officials emphasize.

RECALLS INSTANCE

Chronicling the past year's events, the NMU recalled an incident which occurred just a few days after the President banned discrimination in the maritime industry, at the Moore-McCormack Shipbuilding Company. The report stated:

"Just a few days after the President's order the union sent four Negro brothers over to Moracport where the men were told they were 'not wanted.' The ship's crew held a meeting, however, and voted not to sail unless the colored men were hired." This move defeated the company's pretense that it was willing to hire the men, but that the crew objected to them, the union pointed out.

Commander Lee of Moore-McCormack gave as his reason for failure to hire the Negroes: "They were all communists."

GRACE LINE VICTORY

Another remarkable victory was won against the Grace line in June of last year, the union declares, that line being one of the last and strongest holdouts against employing Negroes.

The union sent four colored replacements to the Grace line Santa Cruz on June 24 and three other Negroes to MS Courageous. The company refused to hire them saying: "These are white ships." The company yielded, however, after crew members at a special meeting insisted that the men sail.

THE SANTA CRUZ

The Santa Cruz deck department adopted a resolution at this time saying, "We . . . go down the line 100 percent in upholding the policy of the National Maritime Union and the rotary hiring system." At a New York membership meeting in June, 1941, 2,500 members had gone on record for "full, unconditional rotary shipping." A resolution at this meeting read:

"We will set the example for all others by completely abolishing jim crow aboard ship, pledging to work, live and fight alongside all those devoted to the destruction of fascism." In taking this pledge they affirmed their "complete support for President Roosevelt's declared policy of wiping out all discrimination against race, creed or color."

The long and uphill fight of the union against discrimination, which dates back to the begining of the NMU and the constitutional provision against discrimination in regard to membership, was crowned by a glorious victory in September, with the granting of a command to Capt. Hugh Mulzac, the only Negro holding a master's license, the union declares.

JAN

Capt. Mulzac who commands a crew representing all 28 of the united nations on the 12,000-ton Liberty ship, Booker T. Washington, was forced to sail in the stewards department of vessels from from 1920, when he obtained his master's license, until 1942 when he finally was given a command.

This, the union protests, despite the fact that Mr. Mulzac had demonstrated his ability to command a ship. He was denied an opportunity to use his talents" because of the official government policy of discrimination, fostered and encouraged by shipowners," the union contends.

Anti-Bias Bills

Daily Worker FEB 1 1943

A NUMBER of bills have been introduced into the State Legislature that hit at discrimination in employment, as well as in other aspects of life. In addition, the Legislature has received a number of resolutions memorializing Congress to make the poll tax illegal and memorializing the President to reconstitute the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

Daily Worker

Many such bills have been introduced in the past. Experience has taught, however, that only where a real campaign on the part of labor, Negro and other civic organizations was developed were these bills enacted into law. Such a campaign should be organized not only in the various communities, but on a state-wide scale as well.

FEB 1 1 1943

It is unfortunate that Assemblyman Andrews, Harlem Democrat, persists in introducing bills against discrimination by trade unions that are of such a nature that they can be used by anti-labor employers against all labor, including unions that do not discriminate. It is true that there are still a few old-line craft unions that persist in disgraceful discriminatory practices. This, however, is certainly not the heart of the question, and Andrews' bill do prevent the full mobilization of labor on behalf of the entire program.

New York Daily

FEB 1 1 1943

The American Labor Party, whose endorsement helped to elect a number of state legislators, can play an important part in getting the anti-discrimination bills passed. Its candidate for Governor in the last elections, Dean Alfange, conducted a fine campaign for equal rights and helped develop mass opinion for such measures.

This mass opinion must now be backed up by organization of a united fight throughout the state to enact the bills into law.

he Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Negroes Break Sperry Job Ban

APR 6 1943

The Sperry Corp. and Sperry Gyroscope Co., long a hold-out against hiring of Negroes, at last capitulated with an announcement that the company will open a Harlem employment office at 129th St. and Lenox Ave.

APR 6

In making the announcement the company acknowledged that the Negro people offer a reserve of manpower. Those meeting the company's preliminary tests will go through a two-week training course in the Sperry schools.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Charge Agency Discriminated In Job Files

MAR 1 5 1943

State Industrial Commission Holds Public Hearing

MAR 1 5 1943

NEW YORK, N. Y.—The applications of Negroes were marked "colored" and the file clerk was told that if any Negroes answered ads, to "get rid of them," at the Accurate Personnel Agency of 2 John street, which is facing charges of discriminating against Jews and Negroes. Acting State Industrial Commissioner Murphy held the first public hearing in his campaign to end this practice recently.

MAR 1 5 1943

The principal witness at the hearing last week was Mrs. Rebecca Stein Yutall, who was a receptionist and file clerk in the agency from last September until March. Until the time she left.

Mrs. Yutall said, applications of Christians were marked with an "X" and those of Jews were marked "J" or "5", and the two classes of applications were filed separately.

MAR 1 5 1943

OWNER EXCLUDES NEGROES

In reference to Negroes, Philip D. Kapps, owner of the agency, was said to have told Mrs. Yutall to get rid of them. Even within the "Christian" files, she stated, there was a further segregation, with applications of Protestants marked "X-1" and those of Catholics "X-2."

MAR 1 5 1943

After last September, agencies and employers were forbidden to specify race or religion in advertisements, but the separation of applications, Mrs. Yutall said, enabled the agency to send only Christians to employers who so specified.

MAR 1 5 1943

Mr. Kapps admitted that he once used "X" and "J" to distinguish between Jews and Christians, but asserted that after this was forbidden last Septembe , he used "X" to indicate "personality plus."

MAR 1 5 1943

After being shown a folder full of applications from his files, all marked "X", he continued to insist that this merely meant that all the applicants had a wealth of personality.

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y

Navy Finds Negroes Treated Fairly at Yard

By the Associated Press

MAY 21 1943

WASHINGTON, May 21.—The Navy Department, officials said today, has produced factual evidence to demonstrate no basis exists for complaints alleging discrimination against Negro employees in the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

MAY 21 1943

A delegation of representatives of the national joint conference committee of the Community Progress Negro Fair Employment Union, Inc., and the New Harlem Tenants League presented their grievances yesterday.

MAY 21 1943

As to a complaint that not enough Negroes are employed, the department said, records were produced showing the actual number of Negro employees is higher in relation to total employment than the proportion of Negroes in ment are "filed away" while those as to the applicant's color or creed gate any specific case cited by New York to the city's population. of white applicants are speedily and hence no possibility of discrimination exists. The department complained that processed. The Navy said that Negroes' applications for employ- Job applications indicate nothing ment agreed. however, to investi-

Federal Agency Personnel Heads Reject Plea to Hire Negroes

People's Voice New York NY JAN 30 1943

JAN 30 1943

Altho exhaustion of the civil service list has forced the government to empower the Wages and Hours Division of the USDepartment of Labor, 431 Ninth ave, NYC, to hire individuals of non-civil service status, providing they meet the requirements set up by the civil service commission, officials in charge of personnel in the office bluntly turned down efforts of a People's Committee delegation to seek a conference aimed at stimulating hiring of qualified Negroes, PV was informed Tuesday evening.

The officials, identified only as Mr. Taylor and Mr. Webster, are said to have

- refused to see the committee at any time, and
- declared that they would not consider any interference with the privilege of choosing from the lists of eligibles.

The attempts to seek a conference in the matter followed a board meeting of the People's Committee Saturday when Board Member Henry K. Craft, Harlem YMCA executive secretary, brought out the fact that many Negroes have applied for jobs as clerks, investigators and in other similar capacities with the Wages and Hours Division, unsuccessfully.

According to the report at the board meeting, many of the Negro applicants were examined, assured that they met the requirements told that they would hear from the Wages and Hours Division. To date, however, it was reported that none of the applicants has received further word.

In an effort to seek a clearing up of this matter, the board voted to contact the personnel officials at the Wages and Hours Division, point out that hundreds of white workers with no greater qualifications are being given jobs and seek to work out means whereby Negroes might receive equal consideration.

All efforts to arrange such a conference met with positive discouragement, the People's Committee declared. The nearest they came to success was when Webster, on the phone, told a PC representative that a conference would be entertained on Thursday of this week.

Later, however, Taylor called and denied the arrangement.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

JAN 30 1943

Some Firms Agree to End Race Job Bias

MAY 13 1943

A number of firms holding war contracts and against which workers have complained to the State's Committee on Discrimination in Employment have agreed to remedy their hiring policies, Charles C. Berkley, executive director of the committee, said yesterday.

He said he was referring especially to Westchester County and the Yonkers area.

The committee's survey and investigation of Westchester, Mr. Berkley said, brought to light several types of discrimination against persons seeking war jobs.

"One type was the blanket exclusion of one or more minority groups," according to Mr. Berkley. "Another was token employment, a policy whereby the firm hired a few members of minority groups in either menial or unskilled jobs and yet discriminated against that group as a whole."

MAY 13 1943

RACE BIAS

Mr. Berkley cited two examples, one a firm that hired 2,000 persons, a few of whom were Negroes working as porters, and another hiring 6,000 persons, "with one or two Jews" in a relatively high position. This relatively high position, he said, was attorney for the firm or its production manager.

Another type of discrimination prevalent in that area, but found also elsewhere, is the hiring of Negro or Jewish workers when others cannot be obtained.

In a number of firms visited in Westchester County the anti-discrimination committee investigators found few or no Negroes doing war production. However, according to the committee's director, all the firms are now on record as being willing to integrate Negro, Jewish, and other minority-group workers, in all jobs throughout the plants.

"Racial agencies and the United States Employment Service have been advised," Mr. Berkley said, "that these firms will be closely watched for their progress."

PM
New York, N. Y

Company Upheld In Racial Case

Warning that inciters of racial hatred impede the war effort George J. Mintzer, an arbitrator, today upheld the action of Acme Baking Co., Brooklyn, in firing three union shop stewards who allegedly fomented a wildcat strike at the war plant on June 9 in protest against the employment of a Negro worker.

JUN 28 1943

Mintzer, who was chosen by the company and Local 21 of the United Gas, Coke and Chemical workers of America, CIO, representing the employes, to arbitrate the dispute, also recommended that the three men be discharged from the union.

The stewards, all of Brooklyn, who have demanded reinstatement in their jobs, are Frank Fox, 804 Knickerbocker Ave., Joe Gerace, 758 59th St. and Otto Chido, 14 E. 21st St.

JUN 28 1943

Charging that the three men are unfit to participate in organized labor, Mintzer declared:

"No true American worker would ever try to deprive a fellow worker of his job and his right to earn a living because of race, creed or color.

"A Negro has the same God-given right to live and to work as a white man. To deprive him of work because of his color is un-American—it is unfair and indecent. Incidents such as these frequently bring on riots and bloodshed. Then the very foundation of our democracy begins to shake. Real Americans are shocked and bow their heads in shame when they learn of these assaults upon our democratic situations.

"It is as important for America to win the battle of production and preserve democracy on the home front as it is to win the battle of Tunisia or Guadalcanal."

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala

FIRM ORDERED TO DISCHARGE THREE

NEW YORK, June 27 — (AP) — George J. Mintzer, chairman, Sunday ordered the Acme Baking Company, Brooklyn, to discharge three members of the United Gas, Coke and Chemical Workers Union, CIO, on the grounds that they had fomented a strike in a vital warplant in protest against Negroes being employed there.

JUN 29 1943

The three members—Frank Fox, Joe Gerace and Otto Chido—were charged by the company management with having promoted a wildcat strike June 9 because Segundo Corchado, a Negro, was employed in the plant.

JUN 29 1943

In addition to ordering dismissal, Mintzer recommended the three be expelled from the union. He cited that during the strike union officials told the three men their action was in violation of the union's constitutional provision against discrimination.

"No true American worker," Mintzer stated in his order, "would ever try to deprive a fellow-worker of his job and his right to earn a living because of race, creed or color.

JUN 29 1943

"A Negro has the same God-given right to live and to work as a white man. To deprive him of work because of his color is un-American—it is unfair and indecent. Incidents such as these frequently bring on riots and bloodshed."

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

Claims He Was Fired For "No Reason At All"

William Bunting, supervisor of janitors at the U. S. Naval Medical Supply Depot in Brooklyn, charged this week that he was fired from his job without just cause on May 27 and expressed the opinion that the dismissal came about because the men in his department were all white.

JUN 12 1943

Bunting, a resident of 15 W. 123rd St., had been working at the NMSD since last December.

"When I reported for work last Thursday," he told reporters, 'I was told that I was in serious trouble because some mops had been found in the wrong locker. I believe the mistake was purposely made by some of the white men who objected to the idea of taking orders from a Negro."

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Score Bias At Brooklyn Navy Yard

OCT 2 1943

NEW YORK. — In answer to charges of gross discrimination at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, the National Negro Congress received here this week, from the Commandant of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, categorical denial of the existence of any discriminiation against Negro workers at the Yard and refused to discuss the matter with Congress officials on the basis that such a discussion "could serve no useful purpose . . . All it could accomplish would be to "re-hash" generalities."

The letter from Rear Admiral Kelly, Commandant of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, was received in reply to a request for a conference to discuss gross discriminiations in up-grading working conditions practiced at the Yard against Negro women workers.

Negro workers at the Yard reported to the Brooklyn Council of the National Negro Congress continuing abuses which forced them to work under conditions detrimental to their health as well as continued assignments not in line with their work classifications and abilities.

Complaints against these conditions, it was reported, led only to lowered efficiency ratings and assignment to more undesirable work.

A drive is now under way to get complaints registered through the New York office of the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

COMMITTEE ON DISCRIMINATION

Governor Dewey's new State War Council Committee on Discrimination takes the place of one appointed by former Governor Lehman. Whether or not the Governor's "deep dissatisfaction" with the Lehman agency was justified, the new one commands confidence. Its chairman is Dr. Alvin Johnson, distinguished educator and economist, with a long record of level-headed public service. Its members include clergymen, social workers, business men, professional men and one representative of labor. Nine of the twenty-five were members of the Lehman committee. Governor Dewey believes that much has already been done to reduce "discrimination in employment by reason of color, creed or national origin," but clearly much remains to be done. The Harlem disorders are just one yardstick of the magnitude of the task. The committee has the opportunity to perform a real service, and one is sure it will do so.

AUG 6 1943

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH
REEL 82

35c-1943

White Supremacy at Hunter College, N.Y.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland



MISS MARIE DE GILES

NEW YORK—The charge that the white supremacy policy which bars colored women from the WAVES extends to treatment of the five colored employees at the Bronx Building of Hunter College where the WAVES are in training was made last week by attractive Miss Marie De Giles, recently dismissed from an agency which makes uniforms for the women gobs.

The responsibility for making slurring remarks and setting up discriminatory wage standards for colored employees was placed squarely on the shoulders of the Retailers' Uniform Agency in Miss De Giles's accusation. The agency makes uniforms for the WAVES, SPARS and marines.

$22.50 for Whites

Hired by the agency in the latter part of February, Miss De Giles alleges that soon after she began working there she discovered that whites were receiving beginning salaries of $22.50 weekly, while colored employees began at $20.

"I went to Victor Chambers, white director, and asked why salaries weren't equal," the young woman said. "He told me that the white girls could do clerical work. I told him that I am a graduate of Hunter College and capable of doing clerical work too.

"Mr. Chambers replied that he didn't see why I had raised the issue. He said that he had bent over backward for colored people; that the navy didn't want him to hire them, and repeatedly asked him why he had done it."

Of the hundrers of workers employed at the agency, Miss De Giles says, there were only five colored at the time of her dismissal.

Light Girls Only

"In addition to this," the dismissed employee complains, "the agency wanted only certain colored people. They had to be of a certain complexion.

"One of the girls asked if she could bring her cousin to see about a job. It happens this girl is light-colored. She was told it would be all right 'if your cousin looks like you.'"

A hint of Mr. Chambers's attitude was given an AFRO reporter who phoned him and was told:

"Oh, that's not true that Miss De Giles was fired because of bias. Certainly not. Why I wish you'd come up here so I could show you what we're doing. We have colored people here.

"We even have one man who's an ex-convict. We're trying to reconstruct him, but, of course, it's impossible to reconstruct a girl like Miss De Giles."

The young lady whom Chambers thinks it is impossible to "reconstruct" and whom he places in a category with an ex-criminal is well known throughout the city as most respectable and intelligent.

Supported by Stores

Colored communities throughout the city have been stirred over the use of the tax-supported Hunter College grounds for the training of women for service for their country—a training which excludes colored people.

The Retailers' Uniform Agency is underwritten and operated by six large department stores, all of whom are patronized by thousands of colored persons. They are Macy's, Wanamaker's, Saks and Bloom's in New York and Abraham Straus and Frederick Loeser's in Brooklyn.

PM
New York, N. Y.

Acme Strikers Back With Anti-Bias Cry

Promise to Fight Race Prejudice After Retracting Own Protest Against Negro

New York

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN

The 89 striking workers at the Acme Backing Corp., who walked out of the Brooklyn war plant Wednesday afternoon because of the assignment of a Negro employe to a key department, were back at work today, pledged to combat racial prejudice in their shop.

The unanimous return-to-work vote came yesterday afternoon, after a day's strike, following stern warnings by the Navy Dept., for whom the company is manufacturing essential waterproof fabrics, that the walkout was delaying important war production.

As a strike, it was a leaderless, chaotic and anti-climactic affair. The United Gas, Coke and Chemical Workers, CIO, to which the strikers belong, repudiated the walkout immediately as a wildcat and in violation of labor's no strike pledge.

Many of the workers denied they had protested the transfer of a colored worker to a semi-skilled job.

Protested Negro

But they conceded that immediately after the Negro, Segundo Corchado, had come into the shop, an impromptu meeting by some of the workers was convoked in the washroom and a protest to the management decided upon.

Thereupon, the three-man shop committee called upon management to return the Negro to his old job. The foreman refused, the three shop stewards were fired, and the strike ensued.

However, it was obvious yesterday that although there was a certain amount of anti-Negro feeling among some of the workers, it far from reflected the sentiments of many of the strikers.

So much so, that when a suggestion was made that the strikers pass a resolution condemning the discriminatory views of some of the Acme workers, it was instantly taken up, the resolution prepared, unanimously passed and then signed by each of the 89 strikers.

The Resolution

This is what it said:

"We, the employes of the Acme Backing Corp., conscious of the accusations made against us as being guilty of racial prejudice, hereby state:

"That we are opposed to any sign of such prejudice, particularly against Negro fellow-Americans;

"That as a group we believe in President Roosevelt's program of Fair Employment Practice and that we support it;

"That we regret the actions of an insignificant minority which raised this un-American issue;

"That we pledge ourselves whole-heartedly to wipe out any prejudice shown by this small minority;

"And that as liberty-loving Americans we pledge ourselves 100 per cent to the democratic principles of fair play for which our country stands."

Negro Selected

A few hours later when they voted to go back to work and new shop stewards were chosen to replace the three men suspended pending arbitration, one of those selected was a Negro, Jesse Craig. He is a quiet, shy man who declined the post. But it was an offer made spontaneously and in good faith.

But like all clashes between human beings, the immediate issue is a fairly superficial manifestation of deeper grievances among the workers, allegedly inadequate sanitary facilities and poor ventilation.

Seemingly there has been little education among these workers on such subjects as racial prejudice. Many of them are immigrants from South European countries or first generation Americans. Contacts with Negroes have previously been rare—the first colored worker came in a short while ago.

Similarly, the war hasn't penetrated too deeply into the consciousness of most of the men. As a result, the patriotic appeal by Lt. Comdr. Kenneth E. Yandell, industrial relations officer, Third Naval District, created little stir.

And for a moment, in the gin-mill backroom where the meeting took place, it looked as if the men were going to stick it out a little longer. But Otto Chido, a tall man with a broken nose, the shop chairman who was one of those fired by the company, arose and referring to the Negro issue said with self-conscious humility:

"Men, we are wrong. We made mistakes. We wouldn't be human if we didn't make mistakes. Let's not prolong this any more. Men, go back to work."

The resolution carried unanimously.

Mail Association Takes Jim Crow To High Court

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Question Arises After Negroes Enter Union

ALBANY, N. Y.—(A N P)—When the New York local of the Railway Mail association, AFL, last October smashed a 29-year-old color bar by voting into membership seven Nego mail clerks, the first to be taken into the union since it affiliated with the AFL in 1913, much concern was aroused among its 23,000 employes, and on last Saturday in the supreme court, located around Article 3 of the constitution and ritual of the national organization which restricts membership to "male employes of the Caucasian race, a native American Indian."

The proposed constitution and by-laws of the New York city branch do not discriminate against Negro employes. In December, 1942, the AFL began court proceedings against the New York state law which prohibits labor organizations from discrimination on account of race, creed or color.

It is a "Social organization," according to Daniel J. Bogan, lawyer for the RMA, and argued that: the FAL, chartered in New York state, is a labor organization as defined under the civil rights law, section 43, certain related provisions and certain provisions of the labor law do not apply to the RMA, and that it is a dimin- beneficiary of fraternal work of the association is an service of the U. S. that it is affiliated torney general and the industrial commission, counsel for railway mail service; that postal system; that with the FAL, charter

PM
New York, N. Y

USES to Wield Big Club On Discrimination in Jobs

Revised Procedure Will Implement Means Of Enforcement

NOV 28 1943

With a revised procedure to implement its anti-discrimination hiring policy the USES (U. S. Employment Service) in New York now has a big club to keep hard-headed employers in line.

Under the new order of the WMC (War Manpower Commission) the USES will be empowered to impose "sanctions" on employers who persist in ignoring President Roosevelt's Executive Order 8802.

The announcement of the new procedure for New York State closely followed a WMC nation-wide report from Washington that "only very small advances have been made in the placement of Negroes skilled and semi-skilled occupations." But the mere mention of the sanctions in New York, says a Fair Employment Practices Committee examiner, "works wonders with errant employers."

NOV 28 1943

Sanctions

Sanctions for a guilty company provided under the new procedure include:

¶ Suspension of all service to the company by the WMC and the issuance of statement of availability to all employes upon request.

¶ Withholding of relief in price-ceilings applications by the Office of Price Administration.

¶ Stoppage of all critical materials to the company by the War Production Board.

¶ Enforcement of the nondiscrimination clause in contracts by the procurement agency from which the company receives its contracts.

Originally, the USES anti-discrimination policy laid down last year by Mrs. Anna M. Rosenberg WMC Regional Director, left the interpretation of the policy to each employment office. The revised procedure, which becomes effective Dec. 1, will clarify the intent and purpose of the policy and, at the same time, simplifying the handling of such cases, according to Joseph B. O'Connor, deputy regional director.

NOV 28 1943

NOV 28 1943

Clearing House

For the first time, the WMC will now have a central clearing house for discriminatory orders placed by employers with the USES which will be available to all employment offices in the state. In effect, this will prevent an employer, denied service because he has placed a discriminatory order for skilled workers at one office, from turning to another office and placing a non-discriminatory order for unskilled workers without correcting his first order.

NOV 28 1943

The order provides that all complaints must be forwarded to the WMC within a week after the local USES office has found that it cannot effect a settlement.

Racial Bias Is Scored

Tribune
Savannah, Ga.

SAYS IT'S RAMPANT IN NAVY YARD

New York, Sept. 24 — In answer to charges of gross discrimination at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, the National Negro Congress received here this week from the Commandant of the Brooklyn Navy Yard categorical denial of the existence of any discrimination against Negro workers at the Yard and refused to discuss the matter with Congress officials on the basis that such a discussion "could serve no useful purpose . . . All it could accomplish would be to 're-hash generalities."

The letter from Rear Admiral Kelly, Commandant of the Brooklyn Navy York was received in reply to a request for a conference to discuss gross discriminations in up-grading, working conditions practiced at the Yard against Negro women workers. Negro workers at the yard reported to the Brooklyn Council of the Natl. Negro Congress continuing abuses which force them to work under conditions detrimental to their health as well as continued assignments not in line with their work classifications and abilities. Complaints against these conditions, it was reported, led only to lowered efficiency ratings and assignment to more undesirable work.

The Congress in taking up the cases with the Commandant indicated its desire to render assistance in arriving at a satisfactory solution to the grievances which lower morale and thereby lower the production of these essential war workers. Although the initial request for an interview was met with complete rebuff, the National Office of the Congress and the Brooklyn Council at a recent meeting, indicated their determination to work with the Brooklyn Urban League, organied labor and other community organizations for full integration and utilization of Negroes at the yard. A drive is now under way to get complaints registered through the New York office of the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

Union Fights For Jim Crow

Railway Mail Assn. Goes to Court to Ban Negroes

PM
New York, N. Y.
SEP 26 1943

By Edmund Scott
Staff Correspondent

ALBANY, Sept. 25.—The Railway Mail Assn., AFL, which has a membership of about 23,000 government employes, argued in Supreme Court yesterday to retain its policy of excluding Negroes from membership.

The issue was raised in October, 1942, when the national RMA sought to impose its restrictions on the New York local, which smashed a 29-year-old color bar by voting into membership seven Negro mail clerks, the first to be taken into the union since it affiliated with the AFL in 1913.

SEP 26 1943

The proposed constitution and by-laws of the New York City branch do not discriminate against Negro employes. But Article 3 of the constitution and ritual of the national organization restricts members to "male employes of the Caucasian race, or a native American Indian."

Started in 1942

Yesterday's court proceedings were started in December, 1942, by the RMA when it brought action against the Attorney General and the New York State Industrial Commissioner, who had ruled that the RMA was a labor organization and subject to the Civil Rights Law, which prohibits discrimination on account of race, creed or color.

Daniel J. Dugan, lawyer for the RMA, called it a "social organization" in his argument for a declaratory judgment, and contended that:

¶ The Civil Rights Law, Section 43, certain related provisions and certain provisions of the labor law do not apply to the RMA, and that it is not a "labor organization" within the meaning of those laws.

¶ That such laws, if applicable, are unconstitutional.

State's Arguments

Henry S. Manley, Assistant Attorney General and counsel for the Industrial Commissioner, argues that:

¶ The association is an organization of employes of the railway mail service of the U. S. postal system.

¶ It is affiliated with the AFL, chartered in New Hampshire, from which state its beneficiary work of fraternal character is administered.

¶ The purpose of the RMA is to improve working conditions of postal railway clerks.

¶ There is no doubt that the RMA is a labor organization as defined under the civil rights law.

USES Drafts New Plan To Fight Discrimination

PM New York, N. Y.
AUG 29 1943

WMC Here Answers Union's Charges of Laxity in Job Bias

PM

By William Fisher

A clearcut procedure to put teeth into the anti-discrimination policy of the USES (U. S. Employment Service) in New York is being prepared and will be put in force within the next few weeks.

AUG 29 1943

This was the answer given today by Joseph B. O'Connor, WMC (War Manpower Commission) Deputy Regional Director, to charges of the State, County and Municipal Workers of America, CIO, that the USES has been giving only "lip service" to the anti-discrimination policy.

O'Connor added that the new procedure would include many of the union's proposals.

Criticizes Procedure

The nondiscrimination policy, laid down months ago by Mrs. Anna M. Rosenberg, WMC Regional Director, promised a new day for minority groups. But James V. King, New York district president of the SCMWA, has made these criticisms of USES procedure:

¶ An employer can place a discriminatory order for workers in a skilled occupation at a local office and be refused service, turn around and given a nondiscriminatory order in the semi-skilled and unskilled field to another office and receive service.

¶ USES interviewers cannot do an adequate educational job when employers, who, paying minimum hourly rates, seek help from among Negroes, Jews or Catholics.

¶ Little is done by the USES to officials and staff members, employers, union leaders of minority groups by practices. Compared with this, 217 complaints covering war firms have been received, of which 138 report "relaxation."

¶ The 181 complaints on non-discrimination in non-war group organizations.

In defense of the USES, B. O'Connor says it stands on its record. That record, he says, is typified by a recent report of the Statewide Committee on Discrimination. Out of 247 complaints received from April 1 to June 30, the report says, only 66 covered war plants. Here's how the report showed they were disposed of:

¶ Thirty-nine firms promised not to place future discriminatory orders; 21 were sent to the FEPC for action and one for advice; and four are in the process of being acted upon by the USES.

Union Proposals

To remedy this situation, the union has proposed:

¶ A clearing house for discriminatory orders within the USES.

¶ Establishment of a standard pattern for rejection of discriminating employers.

¶ Elimination of the supervisor's right to cancel a complaint against an employer over the head of USES interviewers.

¶ Inclusion of union members on staff.

¶ Training of the USES staff in anti-discriminatory educational work through lectures in the bio-sociological and economic backgrounds of minority groups by staff members, employers, union leaders of minority groups.

35c-1943
Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Orders Three Fired Who Opposed Hiring Of Negroes

NEW YORK.—Declaring that racial bias and intolerance have no place in American life, George J. Mintzer, arbiter this week ordered the Acme Backing company, Brooklyn, to discharge three members of Local 121 of the United Gas, Coke and Chemical Workers of America, CIO, on the grounds that the men had fomented a strike in a war plant as a protest against the hiring of Negro workers.

The men—Frank Fox, Joe Gerace and Otto Chido—were shop chairmen and led 89 workers in a strike on June 9. Arbiter Mintzer also recommended that the three workers be expelled from the union. It was reported they will be tried by the union this week.

Commandant Denies Bias Exists There

New York, N. Y.

Conference to Discuss Complaints is Refused By Rear Admiral Kelly

In answer to charges of gross discrimination at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, the National Negro Congress received here this week, from the Commandant of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, categorical denial of the existence of any discrimination against Negro workers at the Yard and refused to discuss the matter with Congress officials on the basis that such a discussion "could serve no useful purpose . . . All it could accomplish would be to 're-hash' generalities"

Refused Conference.

The letter from Rear Admiral Kelly, Commandant of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, was received in reply to a request for a conference to discuss gross discriminations in up-grading, working conditions practiced at the Yard against Negro [illegible] workers.

Negro workers at the Yard reported to the Brooklyn Council of the National Negro Congress continuing abuses which forced them to work under conditions detrimental to their health as well as continued assignments not in line with their work classifications and abilities. Complaints against these conditions, it was reported, led only to lowered efficiency ratings and assignment to more undesirable work.

Offers Assistance

The Congress in taking up the cases with the Commandant indicated its desire to render assistance in arriving at a satisfactory solution to the grievances which lower morale and thereby lower the production of these essential war workers.

Although the initial request for an interview was met with complete rebuff, the National Office of the Congress and the Brooklyn Council at a recent meeting, indicated their determination to work with the Brooklyn Urban League, organized labor and other community organizations for full integration and utilization of Negroes at the Yard. A drive is now under way to get complaints registered through the New York Office of the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

People's Voice

Package Co. Lifts Racial Ban

New York, N. Y.

The hiring of [illegible] women by a New York City firm engaged in war work which had never before given such employment to Negro workers was announced by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice last week. The company, General Desserts Corporation, produces packaged foods for the armed forces.

Announcement of the settlement, together with the citing of a number of other such adjustments, was seen as an indication of increasing success in the handling of cases by the Committee.

The General Desserts case came to the attention of the Committee when the company revealed a need for women workers for production jobs. Although white women were employed by the firm, it was found that no Negroes had ever been tried out. An FEPC representative conferred with the head of the company and pointed out the possibility of meeting its labor needs through elimination of any race, creed, color or national origin basis in its employment policy.

New York

NYU Negro Star Denied Railroad Job as Gateman

PM
New York, N. Y.

Len Bates, Now In Army, Couldn't Rise Above Red Cap

By WILLIAM FISHER

PM Exclusive

Leonard Bates, former New York University football star, who in 1940 sat on the sidelines in the NYU-Missouri game because he's a Negro, has learned again that color matters—even to the New York Central Railroad.

He's in the Army today, fighting in the hope that victory will bring an end to discrimination. But before he changed his Red Cap's uniform for army khaki he wrote a letter to his [illegible] bosses, saying, in part:

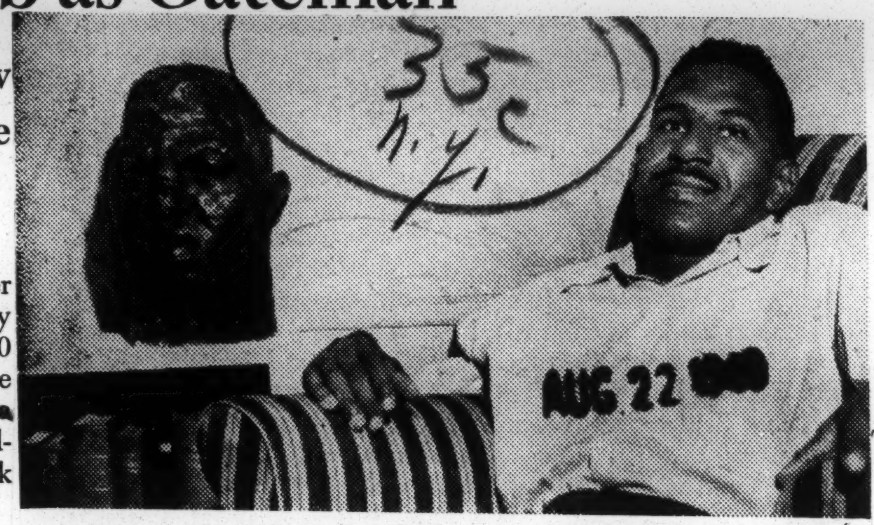
"Just a short time ago I applied at your office (that of the Station Master) for a job as a gateman. First I was told that the Brotherhood (of Railroad Clerks) did not employ Negroes. When I pointed out that the Brotherhood had nothing to do with the hiring of gatemen, I was told that the job was all filled.'

"When I disputed this, I was finally told that the NYCRR did not employ Negroes in this capacity. Your company should be proud of this record—it proclaims even in posters and signs that it is all-out for the war; that all kinds of records are being broken.

'Different World'

"There is just one area in which it remains constant. It [illegible] does not think that the Negro fits in the general scheme of things. His is a different world. He must remain menial. Be polite and know his place. This has got to change.

"You have tyrannized, intimidated, and plagued the Negro worker. You have put him apart. . . . You've got to face your conscience sometime. You will find it black and it will make you more miserable than your already miserable souls have ever been.



Len Bates, 27, spending his last night at home before reporting for induction into the U. S. Army. The N. Y. Central could not find a better job for him than that of Red Cap, despite his BS degree in sociology. *Photo by Arthur Leipzig, PM*

"Soon I shall be a soldier fighting for those things that are constantly being reiterated as the American way. I want to be a good and efficient soldier. I want to draw my inspiration for killing the fascists I face on the front from those I have known at home. . . ."

Bates, who signed the letter "your fellow American," added this postscript: "I shall save this for my boy when he comes of age. This will be his first lesson in American History." He mailed a copy to the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

Discus Champion

Known as Len to thousands of football fans the country over, the former NYU fullback, who was also junior national AAU discus champion last year, got his BS in sociology in June.

Bates, who has been married for five years, supported his family by Red Capping through school, meanwhile keeping his marks above average. His son, Carl, is nine months.

L. W. Horning, New York Central vice president in charge of labor relations, says the railroad has 178 agreements with 28 separate labor organizations.

"Each contract has a scope rule," Horning explained, "which describes the positions covered by the agreement.

"You just can't move men from one class to another without fouling these scope rules. Color has nothing to do with it."

Bates says Grand Central Terminal is so short of gatemen these days that new men are put to work without having been adequately trained for the job. Consequently, he says, he has helped many of these "green" gatemen [illegible] schedules. When Bates was turned down for the job it was suggested to him that he apply for a mail and baggage porter's job if he was dissatified with Red Capping.

But Frances Boardman, assistant terminal manager, advanced another reason for Bates' run-around:

"We have never hired a Negro gatemen, and I don't recall any ever having applied for the job. That seems to me to answer your question."

Arma Corporation Agrees To Hire More Negro Workers; 400 Already Employed By Company For War Work

Age
New York, N. Y.

The Brooklyn Urban League Industrial Department has just announced that as a result of a conference held between the employment officials of the Arma Engineering Corporation and National and Brooklyn Urban League Industrial Secretaries, the Company has promised full cooperation to the local League in its efforts to gain employment for more Negroes.

The conference followed a statement made by Lorenzo F. Davis industrial secretary, that the Company was rejecting too many colored applicants. The talks revealed that Arma is thoroughly satisfied with its present Negro employees, both male and female. Some foremen have even testified in writing as to their satisfaction with the work of their Negro workers.

The Company now has about four hundred Negro employees who are distributed throughout the war plant in a wide range of occupations, out of a total of more than six thousand workers. Talks with Negroes in the plant brought out that they were well satisfied with their jobs. The working conditions and pay rates of the Arma Corporation are among the best in New York City. On concluding the conference, Arma requested the League to refer Negro women over twenty-[illegible] for night work and [illegible] men for day and night shifts.

The Brooklyn Urban League Industrial Department is also pleased to announce that as of last week it referred the first Negro female production workers to be employed by the Intertype Corporation, a large Brooklyn war plant. Of a total of five Negro women now employed here, the first four were sent by this office. This gain for Negro workers is the direct result of the constant cooperation of the New York State Committee on Discrimination with this Department. In 1941, the first male Negro production worker was placed with this same plant as a blacksmith.

Mr. McConnall, employment manager for Intertype, told the League this week, "I am completely satisfied with the work of our first Negro women, and will not hesitate to employ more when in need of workers."

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

North Carolina

35c-1943
The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Protest Navy Yard Firing of Negro Worker

APR 28 1943

A charge that a Negro messenger was dismissed from the Brooklyn Navy Yard because of discrimination will be brought before Rear Admiral R., J. Marquart, commandant of the yard Friday by a delegation representing five New York organizations.

35c
APR 28 1943

A committee to press for reinstatement of the messengr, Miss. Sara Williams, has ben set up by the City CIO Council, the Negro Labor Victory Committee, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Union of Marine Draftsmen, CIO, and the Navy Yard Civil Service Association, CIO.

APR 28 1943

The committee wired Admiral Marquart for an appointment for this Friday.

APR

pecially Trained Women Are offered Jobs At Hard Labor

MAR 6 1943

LEVELAND—(A N P) — Inter- vers in the U. S. Employment ice this week told Negro women applied for work. "We have ning for colored women except in cafeterias or as section ds on the Pennsylvania rail- d." MAR 6 1943

he applicants, former war in- ry trainees, became very indig- t. The story of Mrs. Idabel d is said to be typical of the ro woman's experience with ES and as a job seeker. When Boyd registered with the ES in 1942, she was told there e plenty of domestic, hotel cafeteria jobs available. "I the interviewer that I desired nter war industry and help our ntry win the war," said Mrs. d. MAR 6 1943

T GIVEN JOB

When she was told that prefer- e was given to women with chanical training, Mrs. Boyd k as lathe machine operatory a rse which lasted 10 weeks. hen she received her certificate made the rounds of the plants t advertised for women work- Many of these factories ad- ed that they were not hiring ored women, "others permitted to fill out applications and parently forgot all about them," stated.

Mrs. Boyd finally returned to USES. This time she was given choice of two jobs, one at a int company filling paint cans d the other as a section hand, ing ties, for Pennsylvania rail- d. MAR 6 1943

I'm through with the USES so as expecting them to exert rnselves to really find me the e of job for which I spent 10 eks training," said Mrs. Boyd.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Leon M. Taylor, ANP investigator, set forth the following examples of prejudice there:

"Contrary to civil service rules, personnel departments at two airfields designate on the confidential record cards of each worker the fact that the particular person is colored.

Colored Girls Not Wanted

"There appeared in the offices of the U.S. Employment Service two fair-complexioned colored girls seeking employment. They were given descriptions of two excellent jobs after oral questioning of their qualifications.

"A blank form was tendered them to fill and return. When the same examiner saw the racial designation 'Negro' which the young women had marked they were immediately informed the jobs were not available.

"In at least eighteen different factories colored men are permitted to clean machines only.

"In personnel offices of more than forty factories there are card-records of college-trained colored men listed as menials and common laborers."

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

250 Whites Become Idle When Plant Hires Negroes

AUG 14 1943

AKRON, O.—When a precedent was set by hiring three Negro women to weighing jobs in the mechanical goods department, of the Seiberling Tire and Rubber Company, 250 white employees discontinued working. This refusal of whites to work side by side with colored was made by the vice-president, H.P. Schrank, who said that Negroes were employed in many other departments.

The case has been presented to Harry C. Markle, area director, of the War Manpower Commission for immediate settlement.

Dayton Rated No. 1 Area Where Need Of Workers Acute

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

Say "Immigrant" Southerners Have Helped Big Industrialists Practice Discrimination Against Colored Job Seekers

JUN 12 1943

CHICAGO, May 27 (ANP)—A comprehensive survey by Leon W. Taylor, special investigator for the Associated Negro Press, in which evidence of gross race discrimination was uncovered and turned over to government authorities in Washington, has caused the designation of Dayton, O., as a No. 1 critical area for labor shortage.

As a result the Dayton chamber of commerce called together 50 of the most influential industrial leaders in this key aircraft center to investigate and remedy the situation in order to remove its designation as a critical area.

Meanwhile Mr. Taylor, former Wilberforce university football coach and well known throughout that section of Ohio, remains on the scene conducting a further probe for the Associated Negro Press with the aim of remedying a racial and economic condition there brought on by the migration of prejudiced whites from the rural south.

When the Dayton chamber first organized industrial leaders to investigate the matter, it was not known what had caused the federal action. However, Mr. Taylor wrote a letter to Paul Williams, secretary of the special committee, setting forth his investigations and correspondence with Washington officials resulting in the designation. The white group is understood to be studying the condition closely.

Discriminatory policies of many factories is the Dayton area, the attitude of immigrant southerners, lack of adequate housing facilities for Negroes and the apathy of the city toward prosecuting crimes against Negroes were dealt with in the Taylor communication, four pages in length.

JUN 4 1943

Many industries refuse to hire skilled Negro workers on their production lines because Dixie whites oppose it, the investigator found. As a result, they receive only menial jobs. Henry Parks, director of the NYA at Wilberforce university, has tried repeatedly but unsuccessfully to get skilled work for young men under his supervision.

Wilberforce students, although better qualified than thousands of white southerners, have been refused common jobs on production lines and tendered janitorial work only. Of the 200,000 or more men and women in the Dayton area engaged in war production, only a small fraction are Negroes with any responsible jobs.

"For more than two years I have been investigating the causes of race discrimination throughout the mid-west for the Associated Negro Press, of which I am a staff member," said Mr. Taylor in his letter to Mr. Williams. "A summary of these findings has been forwarded to labor officials in Washington with a request that they take definite steps for their remedy, in view of the fact benefit from government contracts.

"A dearth of labor has been proclaimed here, yet hundreds of competent Negroes, skilled in every trade, are barred because of their race.

"Throughout this portion of the middle west the roots of race discrimination sprang as far back as the year 1920, when an influx of southern workers in Ohio and Indiana gave renewed vigor to the Ku Klux Klan, spreading its philosophy and organization among industrial workers, to erect bulwarks before mainly an economic background.

"Although the Klan structure primarily has disappeared, its tenets have descended into a younger generation to produce an institution which flourishes in clandestine agreement.

"This city's race prejudice is not indigenous to Dayton. It was born in the pine camps of South Carolina, along the flats of Georgia and Mississippi, in the backwoods of Alabama, and inthe hinterlands of Tennessee and Kentucky.

"It was brought here by southern migration in 1920 and nourished by jingoistic whites. A determined and distinguishing stand will be necessary to check its frenzied growth, for it has become the most retarding and weakening element in the life of this country."

Industrialists, to avoid placing Negroes generally on production lines, are training inexperienced women, Mr. Taylor set forth.

Conditions are not much better in civil service, the investigator disclosed. Many Negro women are employed at the two huge airfields, Patterson and Wright, but it is the veiled policy of personnel directors not to allow them to perform any work except that of typists and messengers so as not to give them a rating which would increase their salaries about the $1,260 and $1,440 prevalent.

White women, many of them less qualified than the Negro college trained women in civil service jobs, have been much higher rated for jobs of less responsibility, drawing pay of $1,800 to $2.400 annually.

Negro women on these civil service jobs number into the hundreds. Thousands of white men are working at from $2,000 to $3,600 annually. Trained and qualified Negro men, heads of families, are seldom seen. These airfields employ approximately 30,000 civilians, 17,600 of them at Wright field, but the Negro hired are seldom seen except in menial jobs.

Many Negroes are also employed in foundries where a few have important positions as chemists, Mr. Taylor disclosed.

The only native Daytonian to take an open and forceful stand for better jobs for Negro workers is Earl Heath, a Negro CIO regional representative, the investigator revealed. Mr. Heath has repeatedly forced this issue to the fore and has challenged all organized labor in the locality to break down color barriers.

—Reprinted from First Edition of May 28, 1943.

JUN 26 1943

Blast Ohio Phone Co. Job Bans

CLEVELAND, Ohio—The Ohio Bell Telephone company was assailed this week by local welfare groups because of their refusal to employ race girls as operators.

Declaring that the Ohio Bell Telephone company "has had long enough" to upgrade Negro women employees into jobs as telephone operators, the Future Outlook league, the N. A. A. C. P. and the Cleveland Urban league presented a united front in condemning the officials for their persistent attitude in discrimination against Negro women.

John O. Holley, president of the Outlook league is duplicating his successful in bringing the company to time by lifting the ban on race girls as elevator operators.

Holly has had several conferences with the telephone officials and they remain adamant.

Holly recalled that on May. 1941, after his league had thrown pickets around their building on Huron

To Penalize Plants Barring Negroes

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.
OCT 19 1943

ayton, Ohio, Will Not Hire ar Workers

CLEVELAND. — (ANP) — Efts by a powerful group of Day- industrial leaders to get that JUN 19 1943 from its recent sification as a No. 1 critical area are meeting with stern

(Special to the Daily Worker)

CLEVELAND, Oct. 18.—Any plant in this area that refuses to hire Negro men or women will lose its labor priority, which entitles it to preferential recruitment of additional workers by the United States Employment Service, Dr. William P. Edmunds, WMC Cleveland Director, announced last night.

The order was issued after Mary C. Schauffler, assistant director in charge of Negro employment, revealed that 70 of Greater Cleveland's 240 basic war plants employing over 100 people had not hired a single Negro. In making the announcement, Dr. Edmunds ordered that three of the companies be removed immediately from the labor priority list.

Miss Schauffler further ascertained that of the 170 armament factories which employ Negroes 63 have each hired more than 10, and of these 63 plants seven are the priority list. Seventy of the concerns employ some Negro women, but no Negro men.

Dr. Edmunds stated, "No company has the right to claim that it has a priority on the supply of labor left in this community when it has made no effort to break down color barriers and to draw upon a source of manpower that is still available in considerable quantities." He added that there were still more than 8,000 employable Negro women unable to obtain jobs in war factories.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md
OCT 2 1943

Service Man's Wife Hits Phone Co Bias

COLUMBUS, Ohio.—A charge of refusing to hire or consider the application of a service man's wife was lodged with the FEPC against the Bell Telephone Company last week by Mrs. Rebecca White.

Mrs. White, backed by the Vanguard League, states that the telephone company constantly advertises for help but refused her application although her husband is in the ar[illegible]

AFL UNION JIM-CROWS RACE GROUP

PORTLAND, Oregon, Feb. 11—The Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Welders' Union, AFL, has just been issued a "jim crow" auxiliary charter for colored shipyard workers in this area, despite vehement protests from 150 Negro employes the Portland Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and other strong organizations.

One of the protesting Negro workers, Charles Merritt of 36 St. Nicholas Place, New York City, said required signatures for the "jim crow" charter were received from the colored signers "under duress," because the signers were selected from among the 250 colord workers who had just arrived from Chicago —rather than from the group which had been on the job longer and had a better insight into the labor situation.

Organization of the jim crow auxiliary has been interpreted to mean that all Negroes engaged in shipyard employment in this area will be forced, under Boilermaker jurisdiction, to join the jim crow union.

Ask Court To Stop Jim-Crow

To Test Validity Of Boilermakers' Auxiliary Locals

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Negro shipyard workers in Henry J. Kaiser's Oregon Shipbuilding Corporation last week asked the court to enjoin the AFL boilermakers' union and the Kaiser company from discriminating against Negro workers.

Since last October when 250 New York Negroes went to Oregon to work in the Kaiser shipyards, discrimination has been noted, according to the worker.

At the start of another labor-recruiting drive for the Kaiser company last week, Mrs. Anna M. Rosenburg, regional director of the War Manpower commission, stated:

"There will be no discrimination against Negroes and no difficulty about their joining Coast unions."

The court action was started by Leo L. Anderson, welding school graduate. According to the complaint, the union intimidated Anderson and other Negro workers and intimidated firms which otherwise would give Negroes equal rights.

The workers asked the court to enjoin the union from refusing Anderson membership, refusing and from intimidating firms, and to restrain the ship building company from refusing Anderson employment even if he isn't a member of the union.

Although Anderson is the sole complainant, the suit actually is that of the entire Negro war-workers' community. It will test the validity of tactics used by the Boilermakers' union in excluding all Negroes from membership. It is also hoped that the validity of a jim crow boilermaker auxiliary recently formed for Negroes will be tested.

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

American 5th Column At Work:

Jimcro Tactics Foment Trouble in Kaiser Yards

The fascist tactics of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, AF of L, which has locals in the Kaiser Shipyards in Portland and Vancouver came to light this week when Julius Rodriguez, president of the Shipyard Negro Organization for Victory in Portland, told PV

- that the union barred Negroes workers from membership;
- that it has set up a jimcro auxiliary under the complete jurisdiction of its international president;
- and that his organization came into being to wage an unequivocal fight against discriminatory tactics practiced by the union.

CAME FROM COAST

Mr. Rodriguez came to NY Friday morning with the Rev. J. J. Clow, president of the Portland NAACP, for the express purpose of laying the case of 2,000 Negro workers before the War Labor Board, the national office of the NAACP, the National Negro Congress, and the FEPC in Washington in an attempt to mobilize enough public pressure to force the Boilermakers Union to accept Negroes to full membership.

The two men came armed with documents, affidavits and photostatic copies of dismissal slips sent to Negro workers which clearly prove their discrimination charge. They will not leave for the coast, they say, until they are assured that action will be taken.

The union and the Kaiser shipyards, Mr. Rodriguez revealed, had tried every trick to pacify Negro workers, who complained about their treatment almost as soon as they reached the coast last Fall. But it was not until after a threatened strike in the Vancouver yards that, in an attempt to pacify them, the union announced suddenly last November that they could join an auxiliary union controlled by the Boilermakers. This plan was fought from the day it was announced as it was clearly a discriminatory move designed to segregate the Negroes.

OFFERS NO PROTECTION

An examination of the by-laws governing the auxiliary lodge discloses among other things that the "international president shall have direction and supervision of all auxiliary lodges with the power to suspend their officers," individual member or members, and any and all lodges WHEN IN HIS JUDGMENT it is for the best interest of the lodge of the International Brotherhood."

Mr. Rodriguez pointed out to PV that the auxiliary, in reality, offers the worker no protection whatsoever since at any time the international president desires, he can lop him off without redress. This further means that those workers who have acquired a profession can hope for nothing after the national emergency has passed since they can prove no union affiliation.

CRITICIZES UNION

Recently, in an attempt to intimidate workers who have joined the militant Shipyard Negro Organization for Victory, the union has ordered wholesale dismissals with termination cards marked "not cleared," which bars them from employment in the industry.

Sharply criticizing methods practiced by the union, Mr. Rodriguez pointed out that it was, in reality, sabotaging the war effor by forcing Negro workers to spend time and energy which should be devoted to the building of ships to fighting for their rights as workers.

The trouble started, Mr. Rodriguez said, even before the first group of workers reached the coast last Fall. The early arrivals were for the most part, relegated to laborers' jobs regardless of their classifications because those were the only jobs "open to Negroes." White workers, however, were reclassified while enroute, many of them made journeymen, despite the fact they had no previous experience in the trade.

REFUSE LABORING JOBS

Of course, dissatisfaction was immediate, for the men had left their homes and had gone to the coast expecting to work as welders, machinists, painters, etc. The same situation was to be found in Kaiser's Swan Island and Vancouver yards.

Bucks James Crow; Fired

PORTLAND, Ore.—Unwillingness to join a jim crow auxiliary union resulted in the dismissal of 80 Negro workers from the Kaiser Shipyard on July 11. One thousand more workers are threatened with the loss of their jobs here for the same reason, the NAACP revealed this week.

Edgar J. Kaiser has been asked by the NAACP to cooperate in efforts to return the 80 workers to their jobs and the intervention of the Fair Employment Practice Committee and the Metal Trades Department, A. F. of L., has been sought.

In a telegram to the NAACP signed by Julius Rodnquey, president of the Shipyard Organization for Victory, the Negro workers stated that they were willing to join a bona fide union.

Following the refusal of Tom Ray of the Boilermakers' Union local No. 72 to accept Negroes as members a separate auxiliary union was set up. Negro workers have consistently refused to join the union protesting that auxiliary unions pay dues to the locals to which they are related but have no voice in their management or policies. Moreover, they are not recognized by the international body.

KAISER, UNION FACE CHARGES

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5—Filing formal charges of discrimination under Executive Order 9436, against the Kaiser Co., Inc., operating three shipyards in the Portland-Vancouver area and against Locals 72 and 401 of the Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers of America, a delegation of prominent Negroes held a two-hour conference with Msgr. Francis J. Haas, chairman FEPC; Malcolm Ross and George Johnson, deputy chairman of the FEPC on Wednesday, July 27th in Washington.

The delegates were Julius Rodriquez, president Shipyard Negro Organization for Victory, of Portland and Vancouver; the Rev. J. J. Glow, president Portland NAACP; M. Moran Weston, field secretory Negro Labor Victory committee; Frank D. Reeves, Washington Bureau NAACP, and Rev. Dr. W. H. Jernigan, director Washington Bureau, Fraternal Council of Negro Churches.

WANT OPEN HEARING

The delegation met with the FEPC in behalf of the Negro workers in the Kaiser shipyards in the Portland area, some 300 of whom had been discharged on or after July 14th upon the demand of Locals 72 and 401 of the Boilermakers' International headed by Tommy Ray, because they refused to accept membership in the jim-crow auxiliary established by Ray and his associates for the Negro workers.

The delegation urged the FEPC to take the following steps to end the violations of Executive Order 9346, on the part of the Kaiser company and Locals 72 and 401 of the Boilermakers' union: (1) That full, open and public hearings be held by the FEPC immediately joined from persisting in such alleged practices. (4) That the Kaiser company be ordered to reinstate with pay all employees dismissed and in the event of the Boilermakers' union: (1) declared guilty of violation of Executive Order 9436 and be enjoined to cease and desist from such schemes and to disband any auxiliaries organized pursuant to this scheme. (2) in violation of the Executive Order 9436 and the scheme of the Kaiser company and the Boilermakers' union; (3) declared guilty of violation of Executive Order 9436 and be ordered to reinstate with back pay all employees dismissed and in the event of the failure of the Boilermakers' union to immediately reinstate all Negro employees who had been discharged at the request of the Boilermakers' Union and to refrain from further dismissals. (3) That the Kaiser company and the Boilermakers' locals involved

JOIN JIM CROW UNION, FIRED

Shipyard Threatens To Discharge 1,000 More In Dispute

PORTLAND, Ore.—Unwillingness to join a jim-crow auxiliary union resulted in the dismissal of 80 Negro workers from the Kaiser Shipyard on July 11.

More than 1,000 more workers are threatened with the loss of their jobs here for the same reason.

Henry Kaiser has been asked by the N.A.A.C.P. to cooperate in efforts to return the 80 workers to their jobs and the intervention of the Fair Employment Practice Committee and the AFL Metal Trades Department, has been sought.

In a telegram to the N.A.A.C.P. signed by Julius Rodnquey, president of the Shipyard Organization for Victory, the Negro workers stated that they were willing to join a bona fide union.

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PM

New York, N. Y.

Union Hit for Race Bias

Dr. Herbert R. Northrup, of the Detroit Regional War Labor Board, told the Federal Employment Practices Committee at Portland, Ore., that he knew of no union that discriminated against Negroes to such a degree as the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers of America, AFL. The FEPC is investigating complaints of discrimination by the union in Portland shipyards.

Against Jim Crow


OCT 30 1943
Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Working for equal job opportunity for colored men and women is nothing new to Jules C. Abercauph, independent candidate for Mayor, and business agent of the Jewelry Workers Union, AFL. The sincerity of Abercauph's campaign [illegible] to break down Jim Crow hiring in industry [illegible] tested to by the work he has been doing through the union to insure jobs for colored workers in Philadelphia's jewelry shops. Here he visits the shop of Harry Iskin Company, where, because of his efforts, colored and white are working side by side, producing medals for the U. S. Army. Shown left to right: Al Scalise; Mildred Johnson, department steward; Abercauph; Dorothy Anderson and Mary Crocker.

PTC Interviewers Polite, But Colored Women Still Barred On Trolley Cars

Philadelphia, Pa.

WHOM does the Philadelphia Traction Company think it's kidding? Philadelphia Tribune

When a colored girl applies for a job as conductorette—and the P. T. C. does need conductorettes, because it so advertises on the front of every street car—the suave, polite interviewer receives cordial audience, smiles included. Then she proceeds to apply the old "brush off" with, "I'll just put your name in the files. We don't need anybody now."

When a white girl comes in she gets, "Oh my, can you go to work today? No? Well you will come in tomorrow morning, won't you?" When a colored girl who looks like white, she gets a break, too.

These things the TRIBUNE knows.

Maybe the P. T. C. Management doesn't know that there are no degrees of citizenship in this country. And Philadelphia is in this country. Indeed this city is the "cradle of Liberty!" The motormen of routes 13 or 42 should show the management Independence Hall. From that sacred spot our public rights began.

The P. T. C. holds a public franchise. It is the law that, in return for this privilege, all citizens are entitled to equal non-discriminate treatment. We do think that the operators of this monopoly know that.

The P. T. C. may not want to give work to Philadelphia's colored girls as conductors and motormen, but it most certainly has decided to give some work to President Roosevelt's Fair Employment Practices Committee, which [illegible]

Insult Implied In Exclusion More Important Than Job As Motorman

Philadelphia, Pa.

EVERYBODY has heard about the lion and the lamb lying down together. Tribune

The real idea there isn't that they must lie down together, but rather that, if each has the disposition, he may be in the very close proximate presence of the other without any rough stuff being pulled off.

The real difference is between lying down and the right to lie down with impunity—a thing that may or may not be exercised—a little, a lot, or not at all—depending on the whim of the lion.

This is the attitude the TRIBUNE has consistently maintained about the rights of ALL minority groups in America. Oftentimes, however, we have felt that we were the voice crying in the wilderness. But last week we got an unexpected payoff.

The ultra-conservative Saturday Evening Post writes concerning the repeal of the Chinese Exclusion Act: "Small as the number (of admittable) is, however, it would have a great moral effect on Chinese. It isn't the inability to get into America that annoys them, BUT THE INSULT IMPLIED IN TOTAL EXCLUSION."

The Post acknowledges this truth as to Chinamen. The TRIBUNE again says it goes for Americans of African descent in all phases of American life.

That is the crux of operating a PTC trolley. It's not the greatest job in the world. We actually know a dozen or so colored people who have "slightly" better jobs. But the insolent attitude of "men and management" towards our group on this issue—well, what does the Post say?

Cries For Women But Bars Negroes

Amsterdam Star-News

New York, N. Y.

By R[illegible]OLEN

PHILADELPHIA, (ANP)—The Negro citizenry of Philadelphia is near the boiling over point in its relationship with the city's street car company, the Philadelphia Transportation Company. Ninety-nine per cent of the trolley cars, buses, subway and elevated trains display signs printed in giant-sized type, advertising for female help. The exact words of the advertisement are: "Women Wanted to Operate Street Cars—Apply 1405 Locust Street."

Resentment, at first, ran high because it seemed as though the company was passing over hundreds of eligible colored men in preference to having a white hand at the controls of its cars, a white hand collecting fares and a white mouth calling out the streets along the routes. The company officials, however, told the colored locals to stop and think twice. Why should they employ colored men? Were they too not subject to draft call?

To this, the opposition had to agree. Nevertheless, spokesmen reminded PTC that Negroes were being drafted only in their percentage of the population, assuring their remaining out of the armed forces longer than the whites. PTC agreed but stated it would be wasting time to train the men, since in the long run they would have to be released to the army.

Again the opposition agreed, but it did not accept this as the issue. Instead it hit the nail so squarely on the head the transportation company was flabbergasted for a brief while.

A local Negro weekly sent one of its women reporters to the PTC employment office. The young woman filled out an employment questionnaire, on which she had to put the identity of her race. She was given the assurance she would be notified as soon as a vacancy occurred. The interviewer in an extremely courteous manner suggested to the applicant the acceptance of any other employment offer, as there were already 100 women in training and many more on the waiting list. The newspaper took the company's statement at face value, with the proverbial grain of salt.

A daily paper, a few days later, carried an advertisement telling of the transit company's immediate need for 500 women to start training as trolley car operators. This time the weekly sent a white woman to the employment headquarters. The interviewer figuratively "fell on her neck," accepted her once and asked her to return the following day for a physical examination. She promised to return. In her stead the next morning, appeared the reporter.

This time, the courtesy of the interviewer turned to bluntness. She emphatically told the applicant that PTC is trying to replace colored men with colored women and white men with women of their identity. Therefore, the only capacity in which the company would employ Negro women would be that of a station porter or some equally menial job.

35c-1943

PTC And PRT Union Discrimination Policy Has World-Wide Implications

Tribune Philadelphia, Pa.

DEC 4 - 1943

"TOO little and too late" can be just as disastrous in political warfare as on the battlefield.

For 67 years the United States of America maintained a law which excluded Chinese from citizenship. Regardless of the reasons for the law, there it stood for all who would to conclude that Americans considered Chinese inferior to themselves and to other white people.

Now, during this great struggle when the Government of the United States needs the Chinese as an ally, the age-old custom is destroyed and the Chinese are granted equality. How much better it would have been had the Chinese Exclusion Act never been enacted? Perhaps it is better late than never. It is possible that the Chinese will forgive us for our sins and join wholeheartedly in the war effort.

DEC 4 - 1943

The Congress of the United States and the people thereof deserve commendation for making the change, despite the fact that necessity brought it about.

Much of the world's progress is the direct result of pressure. The Magna Charta and the abolition of slavery are two excellent examples.

It is doubtful whether those who hold power ever give it up except under pressure or dire need.

In Philadelphia, the Philadelphia Transportation Co. refuses to employed colored people as cashiers, clerks, conductors or motormen. The management gives as an excuse for this refusal a clause in the contract which provides that the union and the company will abide by the customs in existence at the time of the execution of the contract.

DEC 4 - 1943

It should be observed right here that the PRT Employees' Union is not in the true sense a union. The evidence shows that it is tied to the company. However, the union, such as it is, has accepted the burden of justifying the refusal of the company to employ colored people as operators, etc.

The FEPC issued a directive to the company and the union to change its custom and hire workers without regard to their race, color, or national origin.

PTC management has remained peculiarly quiet. It has made no official announcement that it would or would not comply with the directive. The union has asked for a public hearing. The obvious intent of such a request is to delay action.

DEC 4 - 1943

The FEPC should move quickly so that a hearing can be had at once.

PENNSYLVANIA

There is one point that should be driven home to both the company and the union—the color question is world-wide. The employment of colored people on an equal basis by the PTC is not a local matter. It has global ramifications. The refusal of the PTC, management and union, to stop discrimination against colored people gives support to the propaganda being spread over Asia to the effect Anglo-Americans do not intend to give equality to the colored peoples of the world.

DEC 4 - 1943

The same reasoning which led to the repeal of the Chinese Exclusion Act is mandatory in the colored-white relationships in America.

It is inescapable then that the age-old customs based upon the difference in races must sooner or later be abolished.

Wisdom indicates that, aside from the emergency which requires the full use of all available manpower to maintain Philadelphia's transportation system, there is also involved a world-wide political problem.

More is at stake than the employment of a few colored people as operators, etc. Since that is true, the people should speak and speak loudly to force the PTC to stop discriminating against people on account of their color.

On this question of color let it not be said, "Too little and too late."

Powell at Phila. Rally For Negro Transit Jobs

DEC 4 - 1943

The Worker. New York, N. Y. (Special to The Worker)

PHILADELPHIA. — The campaign to have Negroes used in skilled jobs on the Philadelphia Transportation System is "just as important as the capture of Rome," Adam Clayton Powell told 2,000 Negro and white people who jammed Town Hall last Sunday. And almost as complicated, he might have added.

Using the old Nazi method, the company has seized the issue of Negro employment to try and divide the workers, all of whom, white as well as Negro, are getting a raw deal, said Donald Henderson, president of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers (CIO). He pointed out that the company is trying to divide the workers to combat the organizing drive of the progressive trade union, the Transport Workers Union, CIO.

The company has been able thus far to use both the company union and the AFL Amalgamated Association in its campaign against the workers, and, it may be added, against the public. For the long line-ups waiting for street cars and buses is not due to sabotage of equipment, but to the company's refusal to use available Negro drivers, cashiers and conductors.

The company has been trying to revive the thoroughly discredited company union on the Negro issue. The company itself has not found it necessary to object to the Fair Employment Practice Committee order for Negro hiring. It has used the company union for a flat rejection of the President's hiring order, hoping that this would draw back to the company union some backward workers.

Meanwhile, the public suffers, and white workers as well as Negroes get a raw deal. It is against this background of [illegible] provocation that the announcement was made this week that picketing of the PTC will be started Dec. 29 by the Action Committee on PTC employment, Carolyn Moore, chairman; Arthur Fauset, vice-chairman.

NOV 13 1943

NAACP Maps Program To Picket PTC Offices

Tribune Philadelphia, Pa.

A definite program for the picketing of PTC offices in the Mitten Building, 1405 Locust street, was outlined last Monday night at a meeting of the Action Committee on PTC Employment of the NAACP, held at 1724 Christian street.

A subcommittee, headed by Mrs. Carolyn D. Moore, executive secretary of the Philadelphia branch, was appointed to visit PTC officials and Mayor Samuel with respect to the hiring of colored motormen and conductors.

Participating in the meeting were [illegible] Rev. H. Beacon, Pastor Ross D. Brown, of Chris[illegible] Bess D. Brown, J. D. Cauthen, W[illegible] Harvey, Jr., William G. John[illegible] N. G. Kees, W. T. Stew[illegible] John Dillingham, S[illegible] Comfort, W. A. Flamer, Jame[illegible] Gardner, H. W. Green and E[illegible] Lanier Cunningham and [illegible] Speakers at the Reb[illegible] where the parade centered, were as follows: Rev. E. L. Cunningham and Prof. J[illegible] W. L. Johnson; Prof. Arthur Fauset, Rev. Reuben Burgess, and Fauset.

A large number of the marchers, were followers of Father Divine, whose headquarters are at Broad and Catharine streets. His Rosebud Choir sang a patriotic song at the demonstration.

A mammoth protest parade staged by the group on Saturday in which an estimated 2,000 persons participated in addition to a number of local and out-of-town clergymen.

Arthur Huff Fauset, chairman of the Action Committee, was in charge of the group which paraded from the YMCA to Reyburn Plaza, then to the Mitten Building.

NOV 13 1943

STATEMENT OF THE P. R. T. EMPLOYEES' UNION CONCERNING THE DIRECTIVE ORDER OF THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE

The Philadelphia Rapid Transit Employees' Union, in the interest of the war effort, shall not interpret any section or provision of its contract with the Philadelphia Transportation Company so as to prohibit, limit, or in any manner interfere with, the employment or upgrading by the Company of qualified Negroes in or to all positions as street car and motor coach operators and conductors; the collection of fares; guarding agents; motormen, guards, platform attendants, and station cashiers on the non-supervisory employees of the Philadelphia Transportation Company.

DIRECTIVE TO THE UNION

1. The Committee directs that the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Employees' Union, in the interest of the war effort, shall not interpret any section or provision of its contract with the Philadelphia Transportation Company so as to prohibit, limit, or in any manner interfere with, the employment or upgrading by the Company of qualified Negroes in or to all positions as street car and motor coach operators and conductors; the collection of fares; guarding agents; motormen, guards, platform attendants, and station cashiers on the

The President's Committee has directed The P. R. T. Employees' Union as follows:

"Except as herein specifically covenated, all existing rules, regulations and customs bearing on the employer-employee relationship shall continue in full force and effect until changed by agreement between the parties."

Philadelphia, Pa.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Paraders Protest PTC Jim Crow



Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Two segments of the 2,000 men and women who paraded here last Saturday in protest against the refusal of the PTC to hire colored motormen and conductors.

Company's elevated and subway lines; or in or to any other job classifications with the Company not presently held by Negroes.

The directive of the President Committee Fair Emmployment Practice was rubmitted to the delegates of The P. R. T. Employees' Union at a series of meetings held after the directive was issued, and the Executive Committee, as a result of these meetings, requested a hearing. The P. R. T. Employees' Union does not discriminate against any group. All non-supervisory people employed by the Philadelphia Transportation Company are eligible for membership irrespective of creed, sex, political affiliation, color or racial extraction. The Union has about four hundred Negro members. It has eight Negro delegates, some of whom represent both white and Negro employees.

Questions PEPC Authority

The Philadelphia Transportation Company is admittedly essential to the war effort, but so far as the Union knows, it holds no contract with any Government Agency, Administrative body or group which seems to be necessary in order for the Fair Employment Practice Committee to make an order.

Aside from the question as to the authority of the F. E. P. C. to issued such a directive in the instance case, consideration should be given the result in relation to the probable effect on transportation service supplied to workers and citizens of Philadelphia.

Education can change the opinion of freemen. Force never enjoys lasting success.

The effective prosecution of the war is The P. R. T. Employees' Union's first consideration.

No presentations have been made that there is available any idle manpower in the Philadelphia area. On the contrary, the press, daily, carries advertisements pleading for skilled and unskilled workers in war industries in the Philadelphia, area, covering a wide range of classifications.

Predicts "Chaos"

The P. R. T. Employees' Union cannot accept responsibility for the chaos and impairment to the transportation of workers to and from the war industries, which we feel surely follow any attempt to enforce this directive at this time. Modern mass transportation depends on the coordinated efforts of all of the employees.

We feel the Committee and the Company should institute an educational program among the employees first before disturbing the status quo.

The service rendered by the Philadelphia Transportation Company has been adequate for the needs of the people in the Philadelphia Metropolitan area and the war industries located therein. The Philadelphia Transportation Company and its employees frequently have been the good service which they render and for the faithful performance by commended in the public press for the employees of their tasks.

Claims Discrimination

The P. R. T. Employees' Union righteously complains that it is the victim of discrimination. Throughout the Country, there are many transportation companies which operate on a similar basis. Pittsburgh, Baltimore and many other cities have traction service in which there are no Negro operators. There are several other public transportation lines operating in the area and so far as The P. R. T. Employees' union has been able to find out, neither these companies nor their unions have received an order like the one presently made against The P. R. T. Employees' Union. The P. R. T. Employees' Union asks why it and the Philadelphia Transportation Company have been singled out for the attention of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices. Should there not be a nation-wide order to all transportation companies or no order at all?

Directive Unjust

Paragraph No. 6 of the directive to the company institutes an entirely new procedure affecting the transfer condition of all employees. The retroactive feature of Sub-Section "B" might well result in considerable anxiety regarding the seniority of all employees transferring subsequent to June 25, 1941. If seniority can be disturbed back for two years, why company and union against which cannot it not be disturbed for five years, or ten years, or twenty years, or destroyed altogether. If the directive were unjust or discriminatory in no other fashion, this one provision certainly condemns it as being most unjust and partial. This Union has a record of industrial peace on the property of the Philadelphia Transportation Company, and this record extends over a period of six years. Peaceful relationships, so far as public order and war stabilization are concerned, have existed. Many of our delegates point out that at the present time while a Negro does not replace a white man in a job on the Philadelphia Transportation Company, on the other hand, neither does a white man replace a Negro and many of the Negro employees have jobs of some importance.

The members of The P. R. T. Employees' Union definitely do not want this relationship disturbed at this time. For a Government Agency to make an order disturbing this relationship would eventua be most harmful to the war effort because the employees feel they are the employees of the only transportation such an order has been made despite the fact that there are numerous transportation companies in the Country, and in this immediate area, operating under similar conditions and in a fashion similar to the Philadelphia Transportation Company. The employees know that the present employment practices have existed for many, many years and that there have been pleasant relationships among the employees and the public. They feel that it would be a tragic mistake to try to change the known for the unknown at a time as important as this.

Furthermore, over 1,000 members of the Union and employees of the company are serving in the Armed Forces. The Union feels that the maintenance of a satisfactory employer-employee relationship should not be changed in their absence.

Respectfully submitted,
THE P. R. T. EMPLOYEES' UNION
By Frank P. Carney, President
John P. Logan, Vice-president
Thomas Hutchinson, Vice-president
Frank M. Cobourn, Secretary-Treas.

Montgomery, Ala., Advertiser
June 17, 1943

Five Negro Ship Workers Shot

CHESTER, PENN., June 16.—(U.P.)—Five negro shipyard workers at the Sun Shipbuilding and Drydock Company were shot today as a negro guard was escorting a man without an identification madge to the plant's gate.

The Fourth Naval District said that as the guard was leading the man from the yard a crowd formed and blocked their progress. Three other guards were sent to the scene, the Navy said, and in the resultant melee several shots were fired injuring the workers.

Company spokesmen said the man without the badge also was a negro.

The employes were treated at the Chester hospital and the guards were placed under arrest by Navy security authorities pending a complete investigation.

All guards employed by the company are non-paid members of the Coast Guard Reserve (temporary) under an arrangement to unify waterfront security forces.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

5 Employes Wounded In Shipyard Clash

PHILADELPHIA, June 16.—(AP). Five men were shot today in a "melee" involving Coast Guard Reserve guards and employes at the Sun Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company's No. 4 yards at Chester, Pa., which employs only Negroes, the Fourth Naval District announced today.

The wounded men, all employes, were taken to a hospital, but the extent of their injuries was not disclosed.

The Navy spokesman said the disturbance developed when a crowd of employes surrounded a guard attempting to escort from the yard a man who was not displaying an identification badge.

PM
New York, N. Y.

5 Workers Shot In Sun Shipyard

Special Correspondence

CHESTER, Pa., June 17.—Five workmen in the Sun Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Corp. No. 4 yard were shot, and one critically wounded, by company guards here yesterday.

Accounts of the shooting, as offered by the company and the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, CIO, were widely at variance.

The union, which recently won consent for an NLRB election between its members and an independent union, the Sun Employes Assn., said the shooting was the culmination of a campaign of intimidation by "bullying and anti-union guards."

The company said a guard, on finding a man near a ways without an identification badge, started taking him out. In the argument that developed, it said, a crowd gathered and the guard summoned assistance. Bricks and stones were thrown at the guards, according to the statement, and they, after first firing into the air, shot into the menacing crowd.

The Navy, the U. S. Conciliaation Service and Delaware County authorities started separate investigations.

Eyewitness Charges Pew Incites Terror

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.
JUN 18 1943

By Walter Lowenfels

(Special to the Daily Worker)

CHESTER, Pa., June 17.—A reign of terror, instigated by the Pew management, to evade a CIO victory in the coming NLRB election on June 30, is behind the shooting of seven Negro workers by Negro company guards, according to union spokesmen and eye-witnesses to the shooting.

The eye-witness account of the shooting was told to the Daily Worker by Bill Greenberg, shop steward of Local 2, Industrial Union of Marine and Ship building Workers, CIO. Here is his story; which is corroborated by the account made public by William Bell, union organizer.

"About 200 of us, Negro and white workers were having lunch in the number 4 yard. Lunch time is 11:45 to 12:15. At 12:10 a warning whistle blows. That's a five minute warning whistle. It was a very hot day.

"A company guard came over and told the men to get on the job. One of the Negro workers said that the second whistle hadn't blown yet, and he saw no reason why he should jump up then."

"The guard socked him. At this point, men started running around, and a crowd of white and Negro workers gathered around. Tension spread. Chief shop steward Eddie Abrams urged the men to go back to work. He was immediately arrested by the company guards and taken out of the yard.

GUARDS PULL GUNS.

"A stone was thrown that caught Captain of the Guard, Brown, whereupon he pulled a revolver and fired two shots into the air. Nobody paid any attention to that but other guards ran up and pulled their guns and the workers turned and ran.

"Then the guards started firing into the running crowd of men. The first man I saw was shot in the back while running away. The bullet went right through him and came out of his stomach. He is in a very critical condition.

"Another man was shot in the left leg; another was shot in both legs. Everyone was running like hell.

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

"Three union men, one white and two Negro, all volunteer CIO organizers, lifted one of the wounded men and started carrying him to a dispensary. The company guards ordered them back, saying if they advanced another step they would blow their heads off. Safety men took the injured men away. All the company guards were Negroes, as were the victims.

"I tried to call the unon office from the yard, but was pulled out of the phone booth by a company guard, who said I could not call the union office from there."

"The management is seeking to discredit the Union," according to a statement by Local 2, which quickly referred the matter to the U. S. Conciliation Service. "Commissioner Justine McAgahone is cooperating with the District Attorney's office to bring the guards responsible for the shooting to justice."

Union officials said there would be orderly demonstrations in the yards, before and after shifts, and that the men would not be provoked by the Pew management into striking.

On June 30, 24,000 workers in the yard will vote in an NLRB election to choose between the Pew company union, the CIO, and AFL.

There are some 15,000 Negro workers in the yard. The Negro Baptist Ministers as well as many other leading Negroes in the Philadelphia area, have urged the workers to join the CIO. June 27th has been set aside as Labor Sunday in 300 Negro Baptist churches.

"Negroes are joining the CIO in droves, that's why the company stooges are shooting," said workers in the yard.

Girls Picketing for C. & P. Jobs

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

BALTIMORE — Young women denied jobs as telephone operators by the C. and P. Telephone Co. are now picketing the company's St. Paul Place office.

Beginning the picketing are Mrs. Julia Newburg, whose husband is on duty with the army in Africa, and Mrs. Dorothy Alama who has a husband in Africa and a brother in Australia.

The move is hailed by the Total War Employment Committee, headed by Calvin Douglass. The committee says it has exhausted all other means to get C. and P., which is a war firm, to obey President Roosevelt's non-bias order calling for no discrimination in employment on account of race, olor or creed.

Negro Job Drive Advances in Philadelphia

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

(Special to the Daily Worker)

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 3.—The fight for employment of Negro men and women on the Philadelphia Transportation Company, as motormen and conductors, made considerable headway this week.

A program of mass action was decided on at an enlarged conference held by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in which groups associated with the Action Committee of the Negro and the War Conference participated.

A mass meeting for Oct. 25 was decided on, along with newspaper advertisements, radio broadcasts, leaflets, petitions, resolutions for introduction in City Council, and a number of other measures to bring the most critical situation in Phialdelphia's racial relations to the attention of the whole city.

James G. Fleming, head of the newly opened FEPC office here, told how a parade of 11,000 marching with banners in Detroit played a large part in winning the fight for Negro jobs on the transportation lines there, and how, in Washington, hundreds of thousands of white people had signed cards endorsing a similar campaign which just wound up successfully in the Capitol.

Mrs. Carolyn Davenport Moore of the NAACP presided. Arthur Huff Fauset was made chairman of the mass meeting committee. Others who endorsed the program included: Davis Levinson, E. Washington Rhodes, Benjamin Shohen, the Rev. Arthur Rankin, the Conferences of Methodist and Baptist Ministers; the local Negro press; the Armstrong Association and the Elks.

Company's Bias

Special Correspondence

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 7.—The Philadelphia branch of the National Workers Order, Fellow- determined Philadelphia Assn. for the Advancer of Col- to win its campaign to establish today on its mass protests against job discrimination by the Philadelphia Transport Co. About 1000 Negroes marched Sunday on Broad St. to City Hall and nearby Reyburn Plaza in protest against the com-

Negroes Protest

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Phila. Parade To Press Negro Job Campaign

(Special to the Daily Worker)

Negroes on the Philadelphia Transit Co. Company will be held Saturday afternoon, at 2:30 P.M. from the Y.M.C.A. at 1724 Christian Street. The demonstration is being held under the auspices of the Actionstration of some 2,500 people at Committee of the National Asso- Town Hall the previous Sunday. ciation for the Advancement of Dr. Arthur Huff Fauset, vice- Colored People. chairman of the Action Committee,

pany's refusal to hire Negroes as motormen, bus drivers, conductors and cashiers. "We drive tanks, why not trolleys?" one banner read. Another read: "Hirohito's bullets draw no color line."

The Rev. W. L. Johnson, African Methodist Episcopal Church district superintendent, declared that "if we are to win the peace we must come to the realization that it is unfair to demand of Negroes in the war effort more than you're willing to grant."

The Worker
New York, N. Y.

Push Drive for Hiring Negroes In Philadelphia

NOV 28 1943

(Special to The Worker)

PHILADELPHIA.—The campaign to have Negroes hired in skilled capacities by the Philadelphia Transportation Company entered a more intense phase this week as the company union refused to comply with the order by the Fair Employment Practice Committee, requiring both the company and the company union to upgrade and employ Negro workers as motormen, conductors, cashiers, and similar skilled jobs.

A hearing will now have to be held. The company has signified that it would accept, but as one CIO leader expressed it: "The right hand says yes, but the left hand says no. Long before [illegible] the company and its company union have been passing the ball back and forth on this issue. Now the company is trying to revive its company union and use it to incite both Negroes and whites against legitimate unions which advocate equal job rights."

The company union is known to be little more than an empty shell. Its contract expires in February. The Transport Workers Union has been pressing for an election, claiming a big majority of the 10,000 workers.

The PTC Action Committee is going ahead with plans for picketing the company, a lawsuit, and a citywide petition drive to gain still wider support among whites as well as Negro workers. The campaign is drawing nationwide attention as one of the crucial battles against fascist forces in the country.

A provocative petition is being circulated among PTC employees opposing the hiring of Negroes as "detrimental to the war effort." While anonymous, it is believed to have been inspired by Christian Front and Gerald L. K. Smith sources.

White union and civic leaders recognizing the dangerous situation that is being created, have begun to urge still closer unity among Negro and white people and immediate compliance with the FEPC order in the interests of the war effort. They include Jacob Billikoff chairman of the citywide international committee which includes representativse of the CIO and dozens of organizations from the most progressive to the most conservative; David Davis, business agent of Local 155, United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers, CIO; the Fellowship Foundation; Jules Abercauph, of Local 5 of the International Jewelry Workers and members of AFL, Central Labor Union, Martin Bishop, sub-regional director of the United Auto Workers, CIO; Ruth Goldsether, president of the CIO Women's Auxiliary; Maurice Mersky, president, Local 30 International Fur and Leather Workers, CIO, Sol Rottenberg, Eastern Pennsa. Regional Director of the IWO.

The Worker
New York, N. Y.



Negro and whites protest Jim Crowon Philly's transit system!

Demand Phila. Transit End Jim Crow

(Special to The Worker)

PHILADELPHIA. — In a stirring mass demonstration some 1,500 men and women, Negro and white, marched on City Hall last Saturday afternoon, down Broad Street through the heart of Philadelphia with banners and placards demanding skilled jobs for Negroes on the Philadelphia Transportation Company.

Thousands lined the streets as the procession headed by a loud speaker, and stretching out for five blocks filed by. Many of the heavy Saturday afternoon shopping crowd joined the march, and thousands crowded around City Hall when the marchers halted at Reyburn Plaza to hear a number of Negro and white speakers denounce Jim Crow as helping Hitler.

Speakers included Arthur Fauset, chairman of the Action Committee on PTC Employment, the Rev. W. L. Johnson, presiding elder of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, who led the demonstration, Professor Stewart Burgess of Temple University, Rev. Luther Cunningham, Baptist leader, Mrs. Carolyn Moore, of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Clase to a hundred Negro and white civic, fraternal, youth, church and labor organizations are supporting the campaign.

NOV 14 1943

Both Races Join in Protesting Philly Transit Co. Bias

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

NOV 13



Participants in the NAACP's march on the Philadelphia Transportation Company (PTC) on Saturday weren't all colored as is plainly shown above. Over 1,000 were in the line of march.

35c-1943

South Carolina

Charleston, S. C. News & Courier
February 12, 1943

C. I. O. Man Charges Discrimination Here

Fair Employment Practices Unit Sent Letter on Alleged Pay Differentials

A charge that negroes are being discriminated against in the American Tobacco company plant here, in violation of executive order by President Roosevelt, was issued yesterday by Edwin McCrea, international representative of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America, C. I. O.

Mr. McCrea reported that a letter has been sent to the chairman of the Fair Employment Practices committee of the manpower commission declaring that wage differentials exist in the tobacco plant between negro and white workers doing the same type of work, and asking action to eliminate these differentials.

Harold F. McGinnis, branch manager for the company here, declared yesterday afternoon that he knew nothing about the matter and preferred not to make any statement.

"One typical example of the widespread violations of the president's executive order in the American tobacco plant is the difference in wages paid to negro and white cigar wrappers," Mr. McCrae wrote. Five hundred negro wrappers receive 85 cents per thousand while about an equal number of white wrappers are receiving 95 cents per thousand. A similar differential prevails in the whole plant between negro and white workers."

Mr. McCrae said the tobacco plant is classified as a defense industry by the regional manpower commission by virtue of its having contracts with the federal government.

35c-1943
Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn

NLRB DECLARES COLOR OR RACE NO BAR TO JOBS

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16 (ANP)—Color or race of employes is irrelevant in determining the unit appropriate for collective bargaining, declared the NLRB last week.

The board directed that an election be held within 30 days among all production and maintenance employes of the U. S. Bedding Co., of Memphis, to determine if they wish to be represented by the AFL Upholsterers' International union, Local 417, by the CIO United Furniture workers, Local 282, or by neither.

The CIO union petitioned the board for a collective bargaining election at the end of the company's contract with the AFL union. The proposed bargaining unit should include "all production and maintenance employes," claim the CIO.

The AFL union said the unit sought by the CIO was inappropriate because it would be dominated by "unskilled and transitory Negroes" and advised that the bargaining unit be confined to skilled employes.

The NLRB in rejecting the AFL claims, said:

"It would appear that the objection of both the company and the AFL to the proposed industrial unit is based solely upon the ground that the CIO includes at the present time only Negro employes.

"The color or race of employes is an irrelevant and extraneous consideration in determining, in any case, the unit appropriate for the purposes of collective bargaining. We have consistently refused to delimit units on the basis of race, and the national policy has recently been stated by the President to be opposed to any discrimination on racial grounds."

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Job Discrimination Charged Against US Employment Service

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—(SNS)—Charging the local United States Employment Service with discrimination practices against Negro job applicants while war industries in the Memphis area are daily pleading war workers, Benjamin F. Bell, Executive Secretary of the Memphis Urban League last week issued a statement calling upon individuals and organizations to file complaints of this nature at the League headquarters, 46 Beale Ave.

Secretary Bell, in support of his charges, pointed out that almost daily other workers are imported from other states and cities, including white women workers, while thousands of Memphis Negroes are denied war workers jobs except in menial capacities as maids floor sweepers, janitors, and common laborers

The Memphis Urban League is urgently asking Negroes to file their complaints of job discrimination and other discriminatory practices suffered at he local United States Employment Service office with the League.

"The seriousness of the situation is refleced in the frustration and disappointment of hundreds of Negroes, both male and female who are forced to do menial jobs at lower wages which affect their family, religious, home and health life," Mr. Bell added "Meanwhile industry in Memphis, throughout the daily press, cries for war workers."

Amsterdam Star-New
New York, N. Y.
SEP 4-1943

Memphis League Chief Says USES Guilty Of Jim Crow

MEMPHIS, (ANP)—While war industries in the Memphis area are daily pleading for workers, the local United States Employment Service office is practicing job discrimination against Negro applicants, Benjamin R. Bell, executive secretary of the Memphis Urban charged this week.

Secretary Bell in support of his charges pointed out that almost daily other workers are imported from neighboring states and cities, including white women workers, while thousands of Memphis Negroes are denied war work, and deliberately restricted to the menial tasks of maids, floor sweepers, janitors and common laborers.

Victims of the local USES discriminatory practices were urged by Bell to file their complaints with the Urban League office.

"The seriousness of the situation is reflected in the frustration and disappointment of hundreds of Negroes, both male and female, who are forced to do menial jobs at lower wages which affect their family, religious, home and health life," Bell said. "Meanwhile, industry in Memphis through the white press cries daily for badly needed war workers."

Oil Union Retreats On Jim Crow Issue

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

(Special to the Daily Worker)

FORT WORTH, Texas, Aug. 16.—After three days of action in support of a win-the-war policy, the convention of the Oil Workers International Union, retreated on the race issue due to confusion and default of leadership.

On Wednesday evening the convention voted unanimously to amend the union's constitution to read that "no officer or representative of the International or of a local union of the International shall be permitted to sign an agreement which contains discriminatory provisions or discriminatory wage rates based on race, color, creed or sex."

Between that session and the Thursday morning session, however, there appeared before the Law and Legislative Committee of the Convention representatives of the Port Arthur Local 23 and the Jim-Crow local in that city, the only one in the International, to ask that this amendment be reconsidered.

The amendment was then brought to the floor of the convention for reconsideration. After debate by delegates from the Port Arthur local for rescinding the previous action taken by the convention in favor of the amendment and an excellent speech against racial discrimination by a delegate from the Ingleside, Texas, local, President Knight called for a vote. The vote, pro and con was so small, that Mr. Knight called for a second vote, to record the sentiments of the delegates.

NO FIRM POSITION

On the second vote 25 delegates voted to rescind the action of the convention against racial discrimination, and one voted to sustain it with more than 180 delegates still abstaining from voting. Mr. Knight thereupon, ruled that the amendment was rescinded.

Afterwards it was discovered that the delegates from the North, East and Far West had before the convention decided not to participate in any discussion or action on this amendment and leave to the Southern delegates the solution of this question.

Negro Trainees Idle Despite Industry Needs

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

FORT WORTH, Tex. — (ANP) — Demands were made last week upon the Truman committee of the U. S. Senate investigating the national defense program, to probe employment policies of the Consolidated-Vultee, North American, and other war plants at Convair as they operate against Negroes. The request was made by the training and employment committee of the Negro Welfare council.

In a telegram to Sen. Harley M. Kilgore, chairman of the subcommittee, G. W. Williams chairman of the NWC committee charged that Consolidated-Vultee's Fort Worth branch "employs no Negroes in skilled trades" and that the war training program "for Negroes" is almost nil." Out of five former courses offered at the training school here only two are offered now stated the telegram. One of these, ship welding, is not usable here it was pointed out. The other, aircraft sheet metal, is not exploited by war plants here when the workers happen to be Negroes continued the wire.

Pointing out that hundreds of Negroes have graduated from the courses and are still idle in the face of consistent advertisements appearing in the daily papers asking for skilled workers at Consolidated and North American, the council said it "sees no reason why Negro skills should not be integrated in" war industries here.

Sen. Kilgore promised that the matter would be referred to Sen. Reynolds, chairman of the military affairs committee of the senate, who is currently conducting a survey of the manpower problem throughout the country.

The Negro Welfare council, which has been collecting data on discriminatory employment practices in this area for the past few months, was frustrated in its plans to present full information to the Senate committee when it canceled plans to hold hearings here. Williams said that since the hearings were conducted in Dallas instead, and actions taken by committee members except visits and luncheons in the war plants here, the NWC felt it had been given the "run around."

The committee however said it had information tending to show that North American would end its barriers against Negro labor in the near future and allow skilled Negro workers to participate fully on a "pay as you learn" basis. The practice here has been to pay "in-service" whites from 63 cents to 89 cents per hour while learning, but to require Negroes to sutdy without this retainer.

35c-1943

Virginia

Richmond, Va., Times-Dispatch
February 18, 1943

The Negro's Share of Jobs

Editor of The Times-Dispatch,
Sir:

The subject discussed in your editorial of February 11, under the caption, "Justice to Negro Citizens," has been one of much concern among Richmonders for a long time. The practice of keeping Negroes out of municipal employment merely because of race is probably the root of the numerous protests waged by Negro leaders from time to time. When this discriminatory barrier is removed from the hearts and minds of our city officials and qualified Negroes are given more chances to be employed and allowed their rightful place in municipal affairs, I believe protests, mass meetings and general discontent will cease to be evident every time a new project makes its appearance here in Richmond.

A large part of our citizenry, white and colored, has wondered just why our fair-minded city fathers have been so determined in denying Negroes, who make up nearly one-third of our population, an equitable share of city jobs. By having employed by the city Negro school teachers, several City Home nurses, charwomen in the City Hall and a few others here and there, is but a small share of what Negroes are entitled to.

Can it be possible that race relations and general understanding between the white and colored people are better in Galveston and Houston, Texas; Daytona Beach, Fla.; Charlotte, N. C.; Knoxville, Tenn.; Louisville, Ky.; Washington, D. C.; Philadelphia, Pa., and Charleston, W. Va., than they are in Richmond? If Negro police and firemen can render satisfactory service in these cities, surely they can do equally as well in Richmond.

There are other avenues of municipal employment that should be opened up to Negroes, such as gas and water meter readers, street cleaners, repair men in the Department of Public Utilities and others. This would certainly open the way for all citizens to feel that they are a part of the city government and create within them a deeper sense of municipal pride.

Right now the city has a swell chance to make a forward step in this direction. Since two new fire companies are to be established—one for the annexed area of Chesterfield County and the other for Westover Hills, why not consider transferring the personnel of the Engine Company at Fifth and Duval Streets to one of the new fire houses and a new company with a Negro personnel be established for the Fifth and Duval company.

It was reported that 28 new firemen would be needed—14 for each new company. It would be a mighty fine start if 14 of these new firemen were Negroes and station at Fifth and Duval Streets right in the heart of a thickly populated Negro section. The 65,000 Negro citizens and many liberal white citizens would welcome such a move on the part of the City of Richmond.

Richmond. C. L. TOWNES.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

35c-1943

Washington

LEE ANDERSON SEEKS TO ENJOIN UNION FROM INTERFERRING, THREATING INTIMDATING HIMSELF AND OTHERS OF RACE

APR 21 1943

APR 21 1943

The Portland branch N. A. 9. P. held a called meeting on Sunday following its March regular meeting, in an effort to clarify the legal procedure in the case of Lee Anderson who was in line of duty as an electrical welder at the Kaiser shipyards in Vancouver, Wn. The Labor and industrial committee working jointly with the branch association, had previously engaged Attorney Ervin Goodman as legal advisor who, at this meeting held at the Mt. Olivet Baptist church, attempted to clarify the legality of the case as presented by the committee and substantiated by Mr. Anderson. William McClendon, chairman of the labor and industrial committee and spokesman for the workers backing the case stated, that the committee and workers after considerable thought decided it wise to get a better understanding of the whole situation and at the same time reinforce their organization in order to be able to meet labor difficulties which they realized would arise, before continuing with the case. This deferment of the case was disappointing to Mr. Anderson, so a week later he filed suit against the Portland Boilermakers' union, charging conspiracy to carry out discrimination against him and other race workers. The suit filed in circuit court seeks to enjoin the union and its officers from interfering with him in obtaining employment as a welder in the shipyards, and from intimidating and threatening persons or corporations who might employ or desire to employ him.

The complaint sets out that Anderson was steadily employed at the Oregon shipyard from March, 1942, to January, 1943, and that while employed he pursued a course "in the art and science of electric welding under the supervision of the government" and that he became a duly qualified welder. He then applied to the union for membership so that he could obtain the necessary clearance card, but was forcibly prevented from entering the union hiring hall and ejected solely by reason of the fact that he is a Negro. it is charged.

APR 21 194

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

MRS. RUBY BLACK SUES A. M. U. 751 CHARGING RACE DISCIMINATION

JUN 2 1943

A suit complaining against the "prejudice" of Local No. 751 Aeronautical Mechanics' Union, and the Boeing Aircraft Company, against hiring of Negro workers, was filed recently in superior Court by Mrs. Ruby Black, 232 13rd Ave. N.

The suit asked a court order that the union and the company be restrained from "continuation of a practice of prejudice" against Negro employes, and the union be restrained from collecting $3.50 from Negro employes each month.

Jeffrey Heiman, attorney for Mrs. Black, said he represents Negro workers at the plant, along with Mrs. Black, who also have protested against prejudice.

Mrs. Black contends she was not permitted to join the union, but was discharged because she is not a member of the union. She declared the company, in dismissing her for not being a union member, failed to complp with its contract with the United States Government.

A Boeing company spokesman said that the company complied with that contract in hiring Mrs. Black in the first place, but also must comply with its contract to hire union members.

Mrs. Black complained that she was asked to pay $3.50 a month for a work permit from the union, but refused, since white girls pay union dues of only $1.50 a month. Therefore she was discharged, she said.

William Bullwinkel, secretary and treasurer of the union said, that $3.50 a month for a year is required by the union constitution for employment of colored persons, "including Chinese, Filipinos and Mexicans," since only white persons are permitted membership in the union.

JUN 2 1943

Woman War Worker Sues Union, Firm

Pittsburgh, Pa
Courier

TACOMA, Wash., June 10—Mrs. Ruby Black, according to a May 28 article in the Tacoma News Tribune, alleges that she has been refused admission to the Aeronautical Mechanics' union local after graduating from a NYA training course, although she was issued a work permit for employment at the Boeing Aircraft plant for a fee of $3.50 monthly. The allegations were contained in a suit against the union and Boeing, seeking a court order against "continuation of a practice of prejudice," and against the unions' monthly collection from first-year colored workers.

According to the news article, Mrs. Black said she lost her job after paying the union only $1.50, which she said was the amount charged white women monthly. When informed of the suit, Union Secretary-Treasurer William Bullwinkle was quoted as saying the payment of workers ineligible for union membership actually is less than that of members, because the latter have a $25 initiation fee, plus $1.50 monthly dues—a total of $43 for the first year—while non-members are paying $42. He said that, after the first year, the monthly dues are $1.50 for all persons.

35d-1943
Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.
APR 4 1943

"TOTING" BECOMES CRIME

The Associated Press wires carried a little story from Asheville, North Carolina, that may not have as much timeliness just now as would have been the case before so many cooks retired to live on the usufruct of a spouse's military allotment check. Nevertheless it contains the germ of an idea that may spread. It relates to a subject with which every Southern household has had to deal at one time or another. The item tells its own story in these words:

APR 4 1943

"An old Southern custom of 'toting' food away from employers' kitchens by the servants is ready to go the way of hoop skirts and plantation parties, and servants who persist in carrying food from their missus' kitchens will find themselves entangled seriously in the toils of the law. That is the opinion of Judge Sam Cathey of the police court here.

APR 4 1943

"Back before the days of red stamps, blue stamps and other rationing terminology it was considered quite proper for the cook to 'tote yittles' home from the well stocked kitchen of her employer, but now, according to Judge Cathey, it's nothing less than a socially criminal act. And as far as he's concerned, the judge says, he's going to punish severely any person convicted in his court of such 'vittle toting.'"

APR 4 1943

Encourage The Negro To Work

Atmore, Ala. Advance March 25, 1943

The average negro of this section is becoming more inclined to loaf since the beginning of the war. Negro women who made their living laundrying or cooking in some white home, have retired to their homes with a check each month from their soldier husband or son and absolutely refuse to work at any price.

That attitude is brought about by some race organization, either deliberately or through ignorance and we are inclined to believe it the latter. These negroes who refuse to work during a crisis because they can live without working are simply accepting an attitude that is not only deterimental to themselves but is bad for the war effort. They should work at their jobs even harder than during peacetime and invest their extra money in War Bonds.

The average Southern negro is a pretty much happy-go-lucky sort of character but if he performs his work well, he not only has a permanent job, but in his employer he has a friend who will see that he and his family have privileges, medical attention and other necessities about his home.

Opp, as do other communities, has some mighty fine negro families, and then we have some we can't recommend so highly. But it should be impressed on them to go back to their jobs and do their work well and buy War Bonds. Too, give something to the Red Cross. The war is not going to last forever and they'll need a good job when it's over.—Opp News.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Eye 'Importation' Of Women Maids

BINGHAMPTON, N. Y.—It was declared here this week that Mrs. Anna M. Rosenberg, regional WMC director, would start an investigation of the reported importation here of colored women domestics from Georgia. The complaint was made by Charles E. Eason, executive secretary for the Interracial Association of Binghampton.

Eason said that most of the women were single and were sent here from Atlanta by Southern employment agencies. Eason said the women were victims of unfair employment practices and were not given jobs as maids, but made to do general housework. He added: "Abusive treatment has been reported. They also are advised not to mention the means through which they obtained employment."

APR 3 1943

Many of the women quit because of the abuses and are left stranded in the city. Unless other employment was found for them, Eason said, it will be necessary for them to "go on public welfare."

Did "Eleanor Club" Rumors Start In Berlin Or In Birmingham?

2-13-43 Journal and Guide Norfolk, Virginia

Emancipated White Southerner Tells Interesting Experience With Spreaders Of Racial Discord In Southern Centers

By THOMAS SANCTON

(EDITOR'S NOTE:—Mr. Sancton, native of New Orleans, is now one of the editors of the New Republic Magazine, from which the following is reprinted.)

A group of Negro leaders from ten southern states, meeting in Durham, N. C., on October 14, in order to form an opposition to the wild rumors (about colored people), lest they destroy every legitimate effort of the Negro to press for his long-standing grievances, recommended the organization of Negro domestics into unions with recognized affiliations. "It seems desirable to emphasize," they said, "that this proposal bears no relation to the fantastic and probably Axis-inspired rumors of so-called Eleanor clubs."

At her press conference on September 1, Mrs. Roosevelt said that government investigation of the mythical Eleanor clubs (which in rumor she was supposed to have been organizing among Negro servants to agitate against white southern housewives) had proved that these organizations existed only in the imaginations of the rumor-mongers.

2-13-43

THE FIRST LADY'S VIEWPOINT CITED

Mrs. Roosevelt said she supposed the rumors started as a result of so many Negro women obtaining higher wages in war factories, thus leaving their employers without servants. It would be interesting to know, and perhaps eventually the OWI will tell, who started the Eleanor-Club stories, and where they were started, Memphis, Jackson, New Orleans, Birmingham, Atlanta, or Berlin.

No Negro I talked to in the South knew of the existence of an Eleanor Club. A Negro servant in New Orleans I have known for years could not even understand what I was talking about. But I have heard from white people a hundred of these snide and merciless Eleanor stories on visits to the South during the past year and a half.

Mrs. Roosevelt is the most hated symbol the middle-class white South has had since Harriet Beecher Stowe. Honorable men and women, who in their personal lives are true to the rules of decency and character, spread slanderous jokes and lies about her with icy malice.

CRUEL JOKES

There are enough Eleanor jokes going the rounds, funny jokes, expert jokes, to fill a book. They are personal insults to Mrs Roosevelt and her family.

Whenever Westbrook Peglar comes up with the specialty, he finds new friends in the South. Landlords talk of letters which Mrs. Roosevelt has written to Negro tenants telling them "to pay whatever they think the house is worth" and "of course Negroes are as good as white people;" but the letters are not produced.

A TYPICAL STORY

Housewives tell one another of former Negro yardboys who are making fantastic salaries on war jobs. There are a number of stories that may be heard in any city in the South, usually told by some prosperous housewife, and usually alleged to have happened to one of her friends.

A typical story is about the white woman who calls a former servant to ask if she knows where a good maid might be found, and gets an answer like: "No, I sure doesn't, 'I'se looking for a good maid myself."

ANOTHER RUMOR

Another story has it that the Eleanor Clubs have the motto: "a white woman in the kitchen by Christmas." Another story which has recently gained currency describes mythical "Disappointment Clubs," branches of the Eleanor Clubs, whose members have the special task of disappointing white housewives by not showing up for work when they are most needed.

In conversation among prosperous white people, even on the steps of fashionable churches after the sermon is over, one hears a most callous and un-Christianlike kind of talk. Much of it concerns the difficulty of finding Negro maids.

"We will never be able to get good maids again until the government stops paying their husbands those ridiculous salaries."

EXCEPTIONS FEW

The hearts of the kindest and gentlest of southern women seem steeled against the Negro and anything affecting his well being. In rare instances one will hear a still, small voice speak up like the voice of conscience: "Well, I think the Negroes ought to get more money; they certainly don't have a thing in the world now."

But a chorus of resentment drowns out such a remark, and someone is bound to add, like a line in a stage play, "You must belong to an Eleanor Club, my dear."

Charlotte, N. C., Observer
July 2, 1943

NEGRO Y. PLANS WORKERS' CLINIC

Classes For Domestic Help Will Be Given In the Hope Of Relieving Labor Shortage.

The Second street branch of the Y.M.C.A. will conduct a domestic service clinic for domestic laborers, janitors and office workers, beginning about July 26.

The purpose of the clinic is to help relieve the shortage in domestic help brought about by the war. Demonstrations in cleaning, maintenance of buildings and private homes will be held, it was announced. Classes in the preservation of equipment and conservation of materials will also be held in view of the possibilities of shortages.

Other classes will include training for porters and janitors of large buildings, for Negro office workers and hostesses, and in personality and the development of attitudes.

communicate with the Second street Y.M.C.A. at once.

Certificates will be presented to students at the end of the courses. Those interested in attending the classes were urged to

leaders and personnel managers, courses.

The classes will be taught by men and women of long experience in tendents housewives and building superin-

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

Charlotte, N. C., News
July 1, 1943

Negro 'Y' Gives Clinic Plans

The Negro branch of the YMCA today announced plans for a Domestic Service Clinic to begin at its 2nd St. headquarters around July 26 for domestic servants, janitors and Negro office workers.

Demonstrations in house cleaning and in the maintenance of buildings and private homes will be given. Certificates will be given those attending the clinic and qualifying under requirements of the course.

Columbia, S. C., State
August 22, 1943

Keeley Sanitarium "Alumni" Honor Cook Who Has Served Patients for 25 Years

By Sara Flinn

About 75 "alumni" of Keeley sanitarium, "the Home Where Happy Homes Are Made," participated yesterday in a twenty-fifth anniversary party for Josephine Duncan, known to the patients and "graduates" of the sanitarium as "Joe," the Negro cook. A servant in the sanitarium for a quarter of a century, "Joe" has a record of never being late to work or absent from her post except during a serious illness.

Besides honoring "Joe" with the surprise party, about $100, contributed by the 75 former patients for whom "Joe" has cooked, was presented to the grinning servant. About 40 of the "alumni" and guests were present to honor "Joe" in person, the others sending their remembrances by mail.

E. K. DeLoache, president of the sanitarium and host to the party, presented the money to the cook on behalf of the group, and in addition gave her a $25 Victory bond as a present from the sanitarium staff. "Joe" said she would invest the money in more bonds.

In presenting her the bond and the money, Mr. DeLoache said, "Your work and your life is an example that any one would do well to follow. I can truthfully say that you have proved to be as loyal and dependable as any person ever connected with Keeley during the 30 years of my ownership. You are honest, reliable, trustworthy, truthful, loyal, conscientious, punctual, dependable, courteous, humble, of even temper, and a good humor, pleasant, accommodating and popular."

Several of the "graduates" also expressed their esteem of "Joe." Flowers had been sent to her in honor of the occasion, and on the table from which the guests were served buffet supper was a large two-tiered cake with "Joe" inscribed upon it.

It was estimated that the servant had cooked for 5,000 patients and had serve 500,000 meals during her years of service.

Negro Domestics Not Asked To Quit Jobs, Says WMC

Pensacola, Fla., Journal
October 2, 1943

Although the war manpower commission is advising all men in non-war work to get into war industry if they desire to avoid the draft, it has not been suggested nor is it desired that women go into war work if they are now handling useful jobs, it was stated yesterday.

At least two Negro domestics, one an ironer and the other a cook, have quit their jobs in local homes because they interpreted an announcement last Sunday in their church to mean that all such domestics must quit these jobs and go into war work.

"That is definitely not so," said a war manpower commission official yesterday. "Women in domestic work need not quit and, in fact, we do not encourage them to do so if they are filling a useful task by enabling someone else to hold down a war job or, as they are doing in many cases, enabling the renter or owner of the house to share his or her home with war workers."

It was emphasized that only women who are not now working, or who are doing something considered non-essential, are invited to register for war jobs at 400 South Palafox.

WMC officials said here yesterday that many women now holding down war jobs are able to do so only because they have capable domestics to handle household tasks and to take care of children.

Augusta, Ga., Herald
September 12, 1943

NEGRO SERVANTS TODAY AND AFTER THE WORLD WAR

By W. ALLEN MURPHY

Some Negro leaders are expressing uneasiness about the great mass of Negro people who cannot qualify for skilled jobs, but remain more or less idle, relying upon small monthly government checks from husbands or sons in the armed forces.

Industrial production in this country is nothing like as high as it should be according to the available pool of manpower. Many Negroes are being used in skilled jobs and many more could be used. But the largest area of unused manpower is in the domestic or common servant field of the South.

Here we have this situation: In numerous white homes where the help of reliable colored servants is badly needed and would be appreciated, servants refuse to stay on the job even after higher salary demands are agreed upon. In many cases the servants leave work without notifying the employer that they are quitting. This is what C. A. Franklin, chairman of the National Hold Your Job Committee terms as the "chip-on-your-shoulder attitude." This attitude may give colored people a temporary feeling of relief today, but it is a hindrance to the war effort now, and if not corrected will be a hindrance to the peace.

Anyone can see now that it is only a matter of months or a few years at most before this war is over. Eventually all of us will be concerned over peace and post-war plans. We of the South will have our particular peace and post-war problems to work out. The war plants will be closed. White and colored workers by the thousands will be returning home from war production centers. They will be seeking work. Men of the armed forces will be returning also. Allotment checks will change hands. A severe depression may cover the land. What will these idle servants do then? What kind of peace will they be able to make with their employers?

As an employe of the Piedmont Driving Club of Atlanta, the writer knows several instances where he has tried to hire servants from middle-calss families for upper-class families. They just would not quit. Investigations disclosed that servants were reliable and efficient; that a spirit of appreciation existed between the servants and their white family employers, and the offer of two or three dollars more was not enough to interfere with the relationship.

The news dispatches from North Africa this week carry a story about Sgt. John S. Hunt of Petersburg, Va., who is the efficient Negro cook of General Eisenhower. Hunt had been in the hospital three weeks with an infected cut finger. During that time General Eisenhower was not too busy directing his armies to pay Hunt two visits while in the hospital. Most white people appreciate faithful, efficient servants, and most faithful efficient servants do well for themselves having white friends.

It seems to this writer that the domestic field offers a large area of fine opportunities where vast numbers of Negro people could serve well and profitably. The profits may not be all cash today, but tomorrow will come, with its peace. The relationship between employer and servant today should be of such a peaceful nature that would assure greater peace after the war.

Some ministers are realizing the seriousness of thep resent situation and their sermons are including helpful advice for Negro people today. We shall need many friends after this war is over. Most of us have to depend upon white friends for all we need. Why can't we let them depend upon us now for what they need? Then too, those of us who receive allotment checks might put an extra $10 each week into war stamps by helping some white family in the home.

Greensboro, Ga., Herald-Journal
October 8, 1943

Negroes Urged To Retain Jobs

Atlanta, Ga., Sept. 20.—(AP)— W. Allen Murphy, negro waiter and War Bond salesman extraordinary, urges negro house servants to think of their postwar future before throwing up their jobs for higher-paying industrial positions.

"In numerous white homes where the help of reliable colored servants is badly needed and would be appreciated, servants refuse to stay on the job, even after higher salary demands are agreed upon," Murphy declared in an article written for the Augusta Chronicle.

This attitude, he said, may provide negroes "a temporary feeling of relief today, but it is a hindrance to the war effort now, and if not corrected will be a hindrance to the peace."

Murphy, as chairman of the Atlanta Service Group War Bond Committee, was a leader in a July 5 War Bond rally among Atlanta negroes which sold $10,000 in bonds within a few hours. His organization and the Atlanta Council of Negro Women jointly sponsored the drive. Murphy is a waiter at the Piedmont Driving Club in Atlanta.

Murphy wrote that it seemed to him "the domestic field offers a large area of fine opportunities where vast numbers of negro people could serve well and profitably.

"The profits may not be all cash today, but tomorrow will come, with its peace. We shall need many friends after this war is over. Most of us have to depend upon our friends for all we need. Why can't we let them depend upon us now for what they need?"

Faithful Negro Servant Dies

Tullahoma, Tenn., Guardian
August 12, 1943

Matt Sutton, for more than fifty years a respected negro citizen of Tullahoma, died at his home here Friday, July 30. Services were at his home and burial was near Eagleville. Loyal and faithful employ of the Aydelott family here. could be written on his epitaph. For 45 years Matt had been in the em-

35d-1943

PLAIN TALK

Tribune

By ELMER CARTER

Philadelphia, Pa

PULLMAN PORTER ANSWERS

To my column on the attitude of Negro employees of railroads toward other Negroes I have received swift reply from Mr. Ernest Edwin Carter of Atlanta in the following letter:

"Dear Mr. Carter:

"Had your ideas for your column deserted you, and you called upon fancy to supply you in the guise of truth with something to write about, or do you have some feeling of inadequacy that you had to compensate for by striking down your brother who is a much less conspicuous calling than yours? We would have an affirmative answer to these questions rather than to believe that your ignorance would be so pronounced after all of your contacts, travels and exposure to education. It is hard for us to really get the real purpose back of your article.



CARTER

"Have you strayed by reason of a few advantages from the herd (your race) that you feel compelled to crush rather than uplift by your influence. There could be a moral in your story but it is so obviously fabricated that the moral is lost in the mass of unsupported evidence.

"Now, Mr. Carter as a group of Negroes we resent the attack that you have made upon the Red Caps of Atlanta. Granting that there are Red Caps incompetent as there are writers of columns who do the Negro more harm than good. There has never been a car No. 314, lower berth No. 1 leaving Atlanta for New York. You lent color if not truth to your description of the Negroes' dialect 'Whar'd you git dat ticket?' Your response was heated enough according to your account, but if the ignorant Negro of whom you write placed your bag without a retort certainly shows that if he did not have dignity he had self control.

"There is nothing wrong about you Mr. Carter so far as we know from the many Negroes that ride pullmans every day that would cause one of these ignorant Red Caps to run to a white man and point at you with awe. Or is there? Probably your friend would have done you an added favor if he had secured for you by magic along with your lower berth a little information about the segregation laws and Atlanta. Don't mistake us we are not approving the law and neither do we feel called upon to break it. Not even for you.

"We like column writers who so forget self that they try to build up and stimulate the Negro to better ways of living rather than destroying what little moral a Negro has in meeting his every day problems.

By (signed)

ERNEST EDWIN CARTER
Red Cap No. 22"

I have it that Mr. Carter is hot under the collar. I am sorry that he is hot at me rather than the condition which I described. It may be that since the particular incident which I related occurred type of red cap I mention has been eliminated from the service. If this is true I am gratified. I forgive Mr. Carter for his personal attack. He is like many people who indulge in discussions. In the absence of valid argument they resort to vilification. One thing about his letter, however, gives me great concern and that is the sentence "Probably your friend would have done you an added favor if he had secured for you by magic along with your lower berth a little information about the segregation laws in Atlanta."

I might say that one doesn't have to invoke magic to learn about segregation in Atlanta or anywhere else in the South and many places in the North. It hits you right smack in the teeth when the train pulls out of Washington, or Cincinnati or St. Louis. The purpose of segregation is to perpetuate in the Negro the sense of inferiority. And segregation achieves that purpose when the Negro himself feels that he must treat other Negroes differently than he treats white people. That is its greatest danger. I have ridden in Jim Crow cars in Texas, Alabama, Mississippi, Kentucky, Arkansas and outside of a little discomfort was not much the worse off physically. But if Negroes ever reach the point where they think that they or their kinsmen *Sought* to ride in Jim Crow cars then the Negro in America is lost.

A red cap or a porter or a waiter need not treat colored passengers with contempt because racial contempt is written in the law. Even within the framework of segregation he can treat his kinsmen with dignity and courtesy and thereby repudiate its vicious implications.

I know this from experience both as a passenger and as a Pullman porter. I remember not many years ago when a group of us porters working in New England resolved to give every colored passenger on the Pullman cars we manned the very utmost in service. Soon afterwards I recall I had a middle-aged professor of a Southern school on his way to Montreal. In the morning after pushing up his berth, I gave him without solicitation, a nice clean fresh pillow. I then asked him if he wished a table on which to write. Each porter then as he passed through the car smiled and called out a cheery "good morning, sir" to him and by the time we reached Portland, Maine, every white passenger in the car asked me in a respectful tone, "Is that Booker T. Washington?" I have watched the dining car men on the Great Northern and Northern Pacific in their treatment of colored passengers. They are unfailingly polite and pleasant and the effect is always the same, respect on the part of the white passengers and a heightened sense of comfort on the part of colored passengers.

Finally, in singling out Atlanta there was no attempt to stigmatize all the Atlanta red caps. Certainly those who have no such feeling of inferiority as that which I encountered will not be enraged. They will just be sorry that any of their fellow-workers should have so completely surrendered to the philosophy of racial contempt.

I am intrigued by the name of my Atlanta critic. My own paternal grandfather came from Social Circle, Ga. It appears that Ernest Edward Carter has some characteristics of the Carters that I know.

FIGHT FORCED LABOR EDICT IN GA. TOWN

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Atlanta NAACP Assails Mayor's Job Order On Domestics

ATLANTA, Aug. 28 (ANP)—The Atlanta branch NAACP this week lodged protest with Gov. Ellis B. Arnall and sought the aid of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in probing a warning issued by the mayor of Barnesville, Ga., to "men and women, who have been employed as cooks and nurses and who are not now employed" to work or be arrested and prosecuted.

The warning, printed on a circular, according to Chairman A. T. Walden of the Atlanta branch's legal redress committee, "is directed at domestic servants who have been receiving pensions and allottments from the government, and who, presumably, are not now working on account of such support." Virtually all domestic servants in Barnesville, it was pointed out, are Negroes and the warning order is "inherently capable of producing disharmony and dissatisfaction in our ranks."

The text of the official warning by Mayor Harvey J. Kennedy of Barnesville, is as follows:

"Last year a proclamation was issued by me in my official capacity as mayor, directing everyone in this city to work. Since that time a great number who were then idle have gone to work. However, it has been called to my attention that many who were formerly employed as domestic help have quit their jobs and are now idlers and vagrants. I am told that some of these former domestic workers are getting pensions and dependency allotments from the government and they feel they do not have to work. This is in direct conflict with our war effort, with the laws of Georgia, and is contrary to said former proclamation.

"Those living in the city of Barnesville, whether men or women, who have been employed as cooks and nurses, and who are not now employed will be arrested and prosecuted and no excuse except a certificate from a physician will be accepted.

"Those who do not like the terms of this warning must realize that we all, regardless of financial means, must either work, fight or leave this city. This is the final warning. The police force of the city has been instructed to enforce this warning."

Atty. Walden said this appeared to be an effort to keep Negro women employed at low wages as domestic servants to white families, while members of these families go out and make high wages in factories engaged in war production.

Deny 'Disappointment' Clubs In Mississippi

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Natchez Negroes Also Declare They Are Not Members Of So-Called "Eleanor" Clubs; Servants At Premium

NATCHEZ, Miss., (ANP)—Contrary to widespread rumor a while back, Negro citizens denied that "Eleanor" clubs had been organized in Natchez, and now as a successor to the purported "Disappointment" club, described as a "spending up" of white employers by Negro servants.

Although Negroes comprise 50 per cent of the 18,000 population of the business, Natchez, the problem of obtaining domestic help is growing increasingly difficult, local white citizens observe. Higher wages for the Negro men who remain at home and allotments from relatives in the armed forces for the dearth of female help.

Given a Prize

It is said that the member who reports the greatest "disappointment" in the rent prize winner, is said to be the cook of a Natchez matron who had made preparations for the arrival of cooks, a southern tradition for years, are quitting their jobs, reported "sick" and remained away from work. Increased wages for domestic help have offered no incentive, "for the presiding geniuses have apparently enjoy war benefits local whites com-

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

Preparing Meats for NYC Dining Cars

Age
New York, N. Y.



ROBERT MITCHELL and John H. Williams, center, Traveling Chefs on the New York Central System, visit the commissary's meat department at its New York City commissary. Wholesale Butchers Eugene C. Brown, left, and H. G. Mantro are shown preparing steaks for the NYC dining cars. Although summer heat prevails outside, Brown and Mantro are warmly dressed for their work in the storage temperatures of 50 degrees.

Negroes Are Key Men In New York Central Dining Car Service

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. — The dining car service of The New York Central Railroad System, one of the largest chains of "restaurants" in the United States; operates 200 dining cars, employs help which is more than 90 percent Negro. Included in this total are the entire waiter-crews, many of the cooks, chefs, and travelling chefs, and the butchers in the commissaries of the New York Central.

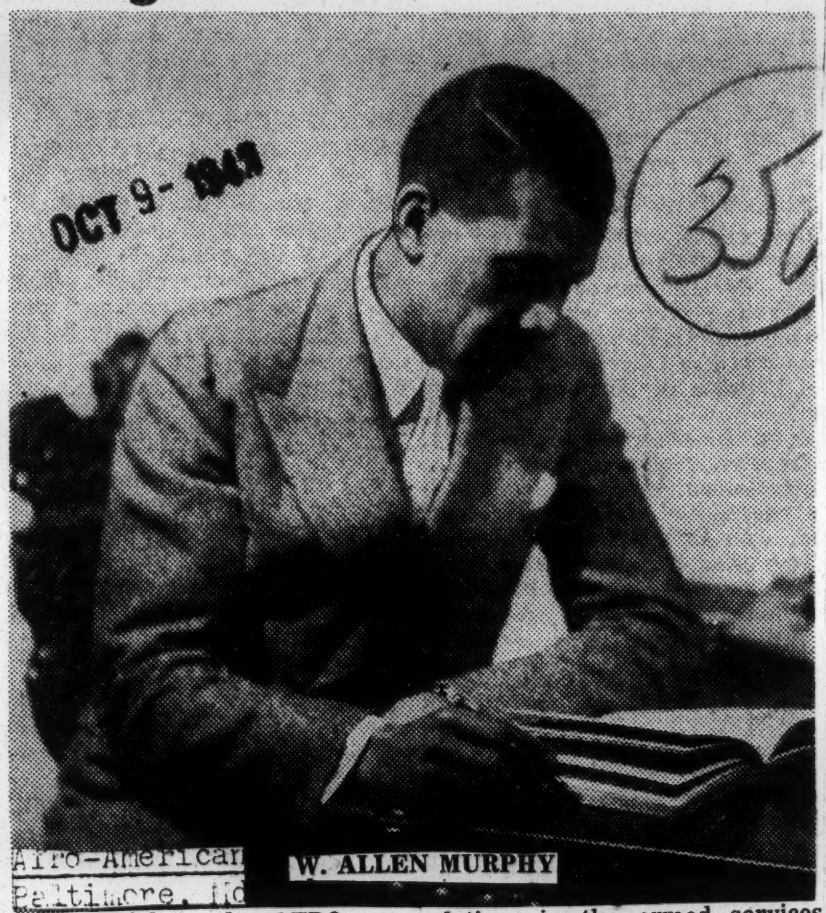
The Central has in her service, Negro men who are culinary masters, thoroughy equipped for their job by years of experience within and aside from the system so that despite cramped kitchen space, constant travel and general inconvenience; dining car meals are excellently prepared and can boast a variety of choice.

Of utmost importance are the travelling chefs. They have been promoted from dinning car chefs to this position which makes them the direct supervisors of the dining car kitchens. Three such men are, John H. Williams, Robert Mitchell and Perry Potter.

Other key men in the proper handling and economizing of the Central's food are the butchers; Alfred Merriman, head man, with Eugene Brown and H. G. Mantro acting as assistants.

These men taken together have piled up 120 years as employees of The New York Central, attesting the success of the carrer they have followed and to the good judgement of a fine railroad.

Talkative Waiter Denies Alleged Uncle Tom Advice



W. ALLEN MURPHY

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Special to the AFRO

ATLANTA.—Doing a complete about face, W. Allen Murphy, greying 45-year-old Piedmont Driving Club waiter, Tuesday branded wholly untrue, a statement credited to him by the Associated Press warning domestics to "stay in the kitchen" and ignore the siren call of higher-paying jobs.

Noticeably agitated, Murphy charged that white newspapermen who heard his speech at an Augusta war bond rally deliberately misquoted his remarks.

"They made me say that colored servants shouldn't give up their domestic jobs to go to higher paid war jobs," the waiter, whom white newspapers have styled a "colored leader" asserted, "I said nothing of the kind."

Meant Idle Ones Only

"What I was attempting to say was that those people who, because of lack of education or mechanical aptitudes, would never do industrial work, should stay on their domestic jobs," he explained.

"I was addressing my advice particularly to those folk who have been doing domestic work, but since they are now drawing government allottment checks from relatives in the armed services have retired from work. I was merely urging these people to stay on their jobs.

Bond Buying Urged

"I further said that these people under the allottments and add $10 each week to their accumulated savings in war bonds and stamps."

Asked why he was not in the Army, Murphy asserted that he would "volunteer tomorrow, but my eyes are so bad I know I wouldn't pass the Army's physical examination."

Since you can't join the Army, why aren't you in an essential occupation, the waiter, turned labor counsellor, was asked.

Thinks Work Essential

"But I am in an essential occupation," protested Murphy, whose serving job at the Piedmont Driving Club pays him less than $100 a month. "My work at the club is helping to maintain the morale of those people I serve, and my work outside is a definite aid in raising the morale of colored civilians."

Denying that his published statement formed a challenge to War Manpower Commissoner Paul McNutt's effort to have persons in non-essential occupations move into war industry, the soft-voiced waiter declared:

Some Could Aid War Effort

"I do not believe all colored people should be in domestic service. I believe that numerous domestic servants could aid the war effort in skilled jobs, ef given an opportunity."

"I believe, too," he said, "that domestic servants ought to be encouraged to learn skilled trades in as large numbers as possible, thereby helping the war effort and improving their own economic condition."

Can Do Own Housework

Asked whether he didn't think that white people can afford to make the sacrifice of doing their own house work, so servants can be released to help make ships, planes and guns, Murphy quickly responded in the affirmative.

"They not only can afford to, it's their duty to the nation to do so," he replied.

He revealed that domestic servants were the principal purchasers of war bonds in the recent rally he headed, resulting in the selling of $10,000 worth of bonds.

Claim Disputed

This statement was disputed by Mrs. William H. Borders, president of the Atlanta Council of Negro Women, who collaborated with Murphy in the drive. She contends that most of the bonds were purchased by members of her organization, none of whom, she declared, depend on domestic servitude for their living.

"A large number of our members," she asserted, "are in business for themselves and have never worked in any white person's kitchen."

Big Salary Drawn By Negro Waiter In Memphis Hotel

Columbus, Ga., Enquirer Sun
December 17, 1943

By WILL GRIMSLEY
—AP Features

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Imagine every waiter a bank president, utilities tycoon, or man of high finance.

Ridiculous? Perhaps, but don't try to tell that to Alonzo. "Thrift and common sense will do it," says Alonzo. "Every waiter should be financially independent—just as well off as I am."

Alonzo is a waiter, an institution at the Peabody hotel here in the heart of the Mid-South. He's as Southern as grits and biscuits, and is known the breadth of this land.

An orphan at an early age, he's been serving presidents, movie queens and Joneses for 37 of his 58 years, has built dime and two-bit tips into a small fortune.

Nobody knows exactly what the genial Negro's income is. Intimates whisper it's around $25,000 a year. "That's a bit high," smiles Alonzo. "You might say I make a few hundred a month."

This much is known. He once owned his own bank and served as its president. He has large realestate holdings, and his own company to handle them. He is a major stockholder in two utility concerns.

He's never been to college and his only degree is a D.E.—Doctor of Experience—but he delivered the commencement address at this past spring at Memphis' larg-

He told gives them a pep talk nobody knows—Napoleon is one, the other Alonzo."

Despite his business interests. Respectively, they are Bonaremains a waiter still—in parte and Locke.

Alonzo and in fact. Except for va- and rare occasions of ill- hasn't been off the job

what about Alonzo's last "Well, I'll tell you," de- the Negro soup-dispenser. here they say there are two men whose last name

35d-1943

Greensboro, Ga., Herald-Journal
October 1, 1943

SERVANT PROBLEM IN SOUTH DISCUSSED BY NEGRO WRITER

(W. Allen Murphy is a waiter of the Piedmont Driving Club of Atlanta, chairman of The Atlanta Service Group War Bond Committee, which gained nation-wide publicity through its July 5 bond rally. He is on leave of absence doing some special work for Black and White Magazine in connection with a special Augusta edition featuring the Warren A. Candler Memorial Library of Paine College).

(By W. Allen Murphy)

Some negro leaders are expressing some uneasiness about the great mass of Negroes who cannot qualify for skilled jobs, but remain more or less idle, relying upon small monthly government checks from husbands or sons in the armed forces.

Industrial production in this country is nothing like as high as it should be according to the available pool of manpower. Many Negroes are being used in skilled jobs and many more could be used. But the largest area of unused manpower is in the domestic or common servant field of the South.

Here we have this situation. In numerous white homes where the help of reliable colored servants is badly needed and would be appreciated, servants refuse to stay on the job even after higher salary demands are agreed upon. In many cases the servants leave work without notifying the employer that they are quitting.

Temporary Relief

This is what C. A. Franklin, chairman of the National Hold Your Job Committee terms as the "chip-on-your-shoulder attitude." This attitude may give colored people a temporary feeling of relief today, but it is a hindrance to the war effort now, and if not corrected will be a hindrance to the peace.

Anyone can see now that it is only a matter of months or a few years at most before this war is over. Eventually all of us will be concerned over peace and post war plans. We of the South will have our particular peace and post war problems to work out.

The war plants will be closed. White and colored workers by the thousands will be returning home from war production centers. They will be seeking work. Men of the armed forces will be returning also. Allotment checks will change hands. A severe depression may cover the land. What will these idle servants do then? What kind of peace will they be able to make with their employers?

Held to Positions

As an employee of the Piedmont Driving Club of Atlanta, the writer knows several instances where he has tried to hire servants from middleclass families for upper-class families. They just would not quit. Investigations disclosed that servants were reliable and efficient; that a spirit of appreciation existed between the servants and their white family employers, and the offer of two or three dollars more was not enough to interfere with the relationship.

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It seems to this writer that the domestic field offers a large area of fine opportunities where vast numbers of Negro people could serve well and profitably. The profits may not be all cash today, but tomorrow will come, with its peace. The relationship between employer and servant today should be of such a peaceful nature that would assure greater peace after the war.

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Here's the Latest Anti-Negro Propaganda; Coughlinites Aid Rumor of "Push 'Em" Club

PM
New York, N. Y.
SEP 30 1943

CINCINNATI, Ohio—Add to false rumors designed to intensify racial strife and destroy national solidarity the "Push 'Em Club" story given wide circulation here. It has been investigated by the Cincinnati NAACP branch and found to be a fake.

Elaborating on the milder "Eleanor Club" rumor the "Push 'Em" has a young Negro woman, housemaid, laundress or beauty parlor helper, who, upon being asked to exchange days off or to work at night, replies that she much prefers to work at night, as the woman confesses that there is not one bit more pushing or shoving by Negroes than whites, is assigned to "Push Club" shift. Asked just what is supposed to be, "It's a club of young colored women who spend their afternoons off jostling white passengers in crowded street cars, trying on dresses they have no intention of buying, or cluttering up cosmetic counters and annoying saleswomen behind them."

Negro Urges Servants To Think Of Future

SEP 30 1943

AUGUSTA, Ga.—(AP)—W. Allen Murphy, Negro waiter and War Bond salesman extraordinary, urges Negro house servants to think of their postwar future before throwing up their jobs for higher paying industrial positions.

"In numerous white homes where reliable colored servants are badly needed and would be appreciated as Mount Wash- servants refuse to stay on the job even after higher demands are agreed upon," Murphy declared in an article written for The Augusta Chronicle.

This situation may provide a temporary feeling of relief today, but it a hindrance to the war effort now, and if not corrected will be a hindrance to the peace."

Murphy, as chairman of the Atlanta Service Group War Bond committee, was a leader in a July 5 War Bond rally among Negroes which sold $10,000 in bonds.

"Until such time as the company hires Negro men and women as street car operators, the application for conversion should be declined," says the committee.

(Special to the Daily Worker)

Transit Move See Negro Jobs Perided in D. C.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30.—The Public Utilities Commission is being asked to deny the Capital Transit Company's application for authorization to convert 52 two-man street cars to one-man operation.

The manpower shortage which the company contends makes the shifting from (failure to utilize available Negro labor supply," says the necessary is "an artificial job re- committee on Jobs for Negroes in Public Utilities, in a letter to the commission.

"Until such time as the company hires Negro men and women

Rumors Scotched In Cincinnati

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Coughlin Propaganda

The August 26 Cincinnati *Enquirer* charges the Coughlinite Mothers of Sons Forum with having circulated such a rumor at its August 10 meeting. Other rumors reports the *Enquirer*, "have come to us from rumor wardens as widely separated as Mount Washington and Taylor Park. What ever the version, the rumor is a fake."

When a special police detail stationed in the downtown area

CINCINNATI, Ohio.—(S N S)—Add to false rumors designed to intensify racial strife and destroy national solidarity the "Push 'Em Club" story given wide circulation here. It has been investigated by the Cincinnati NAACP branch and found to be a fake.

Elaborating on the milder "Eleanor Club" rumor the "Push 'Em Club" story has a young Negro woman, housemaid, laundress or beauty parlor helper, who, upon being asked to exchange days off or to work at night, replies that she much prefers to work at night, as the woman confesses that there is not one bit more pushing or shoving by Negroes than whites, is assigned to "Push 'Em Club" shift. Asked just what is supposed to be, "It's a club of young colored women who spend their afternoons off jostling white passengers in crowded street cars, trying on dresses they have no intention of buying, or cluttering up cosmetic counters and annoying saleswomen behind them."

Coughlin Propaganda

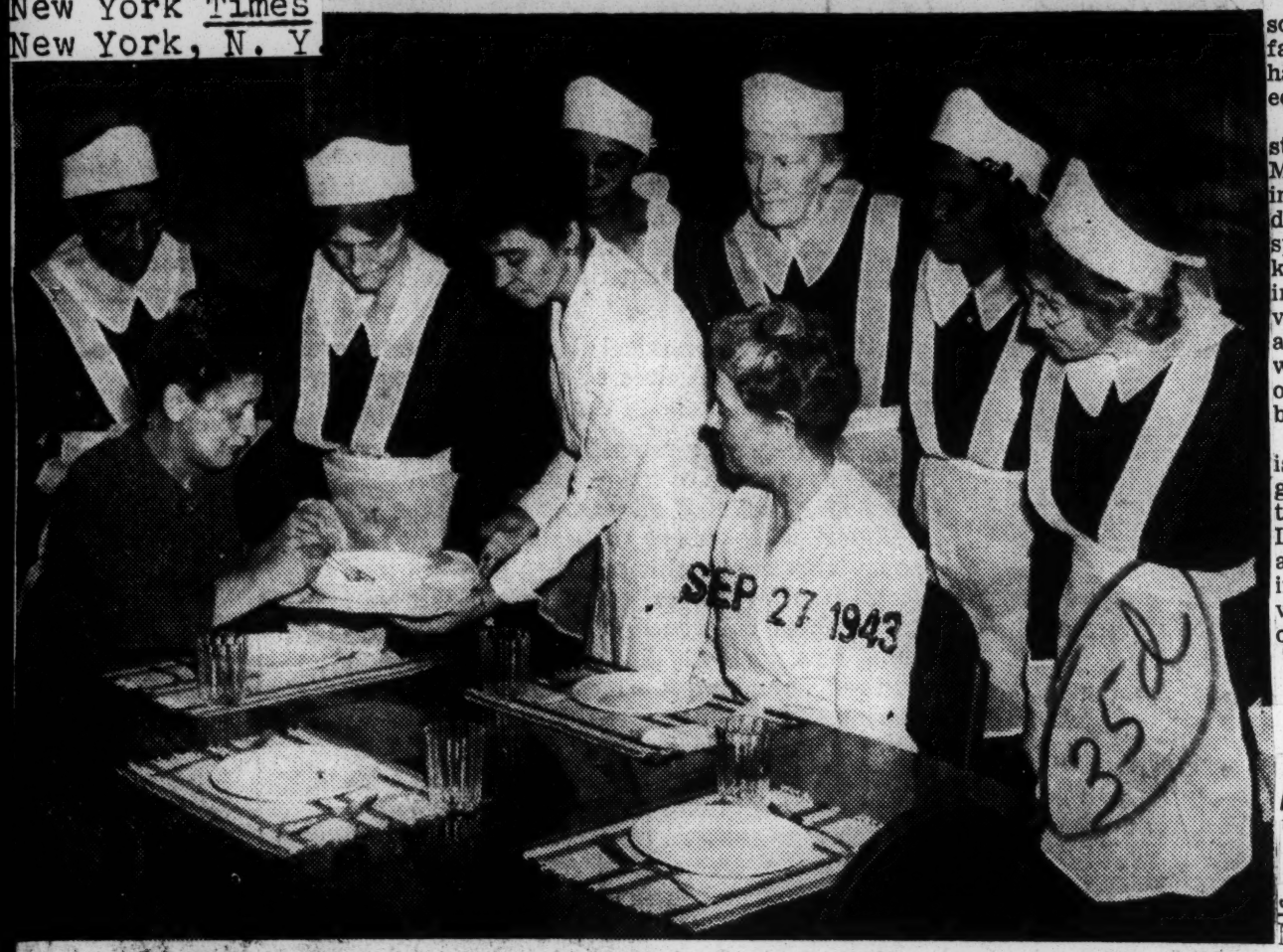
The August 26 Cincinnati *Enquirer* charges the Coughlinite Mothers of Sons Forum with having circulated such a rumor at its August 10 meeting. Other rumors, the *Enquirer*, "have come to us from rumor wardens as widely separated as Mount Washington and Taylor Park. What ever the version, the rumor is a fake."

When a special police detail stationed in the downtown area has a young Negro woman, housemaid, laundry worker, cook or beauty parlor helper, who, upon being asked to exchange days off or to work at night, replies that she can't because of another engagement.

Discussing the police report and the report of the NAACP committee who spent several weeks running down numerous leads, Theodore M. Berry, president of the NAACP branch, pointed out that similar rumors are being circulated in New York, Chicago and other cities with large Negro population.

CITY BEGINS INSTRUCTION IN DOMESTIC ARTS AND SCIENCES

New York Times
New York, N. Y.



A class in the routine of correct service at the dinner table. Seated at left is Miss Helen Underhill, in charge of the project.

The New York Times Studio

RELIEF RECIPIENTS TRAINED FOR JOBS

Welfare Department School Teaches Household Skills to 100 Women, All Over 50

6-WEEK COURSES PLANNED

Aim Is to Restore Students' Independence and to Ease Shortage of Labor

To bring women on the city's relief rolls back to independence as domestics and to alleviate in part the shortage in this field, a school whose curriculum includes washing, ironing, cleaning and cooking, is being organized at 325 East Thirty-eighth Street. One hundred women, all of them past 50, are enrolled in this new enterprise, initiated by the Department of Welfare.

While formal opening of the school awaits its full equipment, the "students" have been under training since Aug. 9, preparing the quarters and incidentally getting useful experience.

As a special labor force of the department, they have polished up and refurbished furniture that was formerly used in a Work Projects Administration housekeeping project. Uniforms from the same source have been mended and altered to fit the present wearers; and washed and ironed under supervision of their teachers. In addition, a supply of ironing boards has been neatly covered, while the sewing class has produced potholders, tea towels and dust cloths, for use when needed.

Prepare Own Luncheon

At noon members of the school prepare a simple luncheon for themselves, usually consisting of home-made soup, milk, sandwiches and sometimes a plat of cookies. Provisions are sent to the school from the Municipal Lodging House.

Although sewing is a novelty to many in the group, they have already turned out creditable work and are now finishing cretonne carry-all bags, in which they will carry their uniforms to the jobs when they are employed.

The day begins with assembly at 10 o'clock, when Miss Helen Underhill, project supervisor, summarizes the high points in the day's lessons and tries to inspire her pupils with some of the courage they have lost in years of adversity. She emphasizes that they have been receiving help from others, but that now they have an opportunity to achieve some degree of independence and that they can make their contribution to the war by helping out in the present labor shortage.

The weeks that the school has been operating have been largely an organization period, Miss Underhill explained yesterday. Although she directed a similar project for the WPA, her former students were much younger. For the older women the curriculum requires much re-adjustment to meet the slower tempo of their years.

Course May Be Extended

In the course, which may be extended beyond the six weeks originally planned, the women will learn the preparation and serving of foods, including dishes for special diets, for children and old people; elementary care of the sick; personal hygiene, household care, laundry and clothing renovation. For their classwork, they have two kitchens, a bedroom and a living-dining room in which they practice the household arts.

Their eight teachers are former social investigators with the Welfare Department, all of whom have had previous experience as home economists, teachers or nurses.

Personal benefits from the instruction will be its first rewards, Miss Underhill said. In the cooking class, for example, the students will learn how to meet the special wartime problems of marketing and cooking under rationing, with the relief allotments provided them. Clothing renovation and laundry will be taught through work on their own wardrobes, and other lessons learned in class will be applied directly.

"Our objective in this program is not merely a rehabilitation program, to get these women back on their feet," Welfare Commissioner Leo Arnstein said yesterday, "but also to help the war effort by making available this number of individuals, through the developments of skills they had not possessed."

The Breakers Hotel Hires Its First Woman Chef

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

By ENID GRIFFIS

NEW YORK, N. Y.—It is not only in the defense industries that women today are proving themselves the equal of men. A summer hotel in Spring Lake, N. J., one of the beauty spots of the North New Jersey shore, has installed a woman chef in its commodious kitchen this season for the first time in its history.

The hotel is The Breakers; the chef is Miss Eva Russell; and Stanley T. Budd, owner and manager of the hotel says that Eva is doing a excellent job of feeding the 125 or more guests who crowd his dining room daily.

Miss Russell comes from Taylor, South Carolina, where her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Russell reside. She has been cooking almost ever since she can remember, for her training school was her own home, and her first and best teacher was her own mother.

FIRST COOKING JOB

Her first cooking job was in a small private school in the south but she soon graduated to bigger and better things. For eleven years she was cook at the guest house of Mrs. C. L. Brewer, Atlanta, Ga.

Later she went to the Villa Margharita, one of Charleston's finest hostelries, where she remained for four years.

It was summer before last that she first came to The Breakers, at Spring Lake, as pastry cook; and it was in that capacity that she returned this season. When, early in July, the manager of The Breakers found it necessary to dispense with the services of his male chef, Eva moved up into first place.

Proof of her popularity with guests and fellow employees alike was given on July 23, her birthday anniversary, when during the dinner hour, Eva was called into the dining room and presented with a purse of $35.00 and a birthday cake. The ceremony concluded with the crowded dining room bursting into an enthusiastic rendering of "Happy Birthday to You." Eva says it was one of the happiest moments of her life.

LARGE WOMAN

Eva is a large woman, with hair graying about the forehead and temples, and with the face and disposition of a saint. When questioned concerning the secret of her success, Eva says simply that she has always liked to cook, and that she gets on well with other people. "Are you religious?" she was asked. "Yes, I am," she replied promptly. "I'm a New Salem Baptist. You've got to have religion—and a lot of patience—in this work. I try to live my religion."

Eva not only tries; she does. "But do you ever have any quarrels in the kitchen?" was the next question. "Never," said Eva. "If folks start arguing with me, I just walk off and leave "'em." Mr. Budd, The Breakers' manager, says the results of Eva's tactics and practical Christianity are evident in the harmony and good feeling that reign in the kitchen this year.

Characteristically, Eva refuses to take the credit for her culinary accomplishments. She says that without Hazel Hardy, of Roanoke, Va., who took over the duties of pastry cook when Eva moved up, she'd "go bats." Hazel, on her side, says that if she hadn't Eva to help and guide her, she never could handle her job.

Miss Russell is a member of a large family. She has three sisters, one of whom is also a cook; and eight brothers. Her youngest brother enlisted in the armed forces soon after America's entry into the war, and is at present serving his country in North Africa.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Souths' Domestics Are Free to Leave for North

By MABEL ALSTON

WASHINGTON persons employed in domestic service, who voluntarily quit their jobs in the South who is unable to obtain a release from his employer and West in search of jobs. The Revised Area Employment vice, who does not have to remain unemployed for a period of six weeks, will have to forfeit his unemployment insurance benefits, it was announced today by Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission.

Since the WMC unemployment stability plan, like the Social Security program, does not include Program was officially announced Friday, and became effective Monday. Domestics and those who like to change jobs. Under the new plan, a worker who quits his job and remains unemployed for the past two or three years to obtain a release from the South, he can pick up into first place.

The double purpose is to prevent migration of workers from one area to the other and to tighten governmental control over Whenever he is dissatisfied with his employer, nor from the U.S. Employment Service.

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PLAIN TALK

By ELMER A. CARTER

To my column on the attitude of Negro employees of railroads toward other Negroes I have received swift reply from Mr. Ernest Edwin Carter of Atlanta, in the following letter:

"Dear Mr. Carter:

Had your ideas for your column deserted you, and you called upon fancy to supply you in the guise of truth with something to write? Or do you have some feeling of inadequacy that you had to compensate for by striking down your brother who is in a much less conspicuous calling than yours? We would have an affirmative answer to these questions rather than to believe that your ignorance would be so pronounced after all of your contacts, travels and exposure to education. It is hard for us to really get the real purpose back of your article.

"Have you strayed by reason of a few advantages rom the herd (your race) that you feel compelled to crush rather than uplife by your influence. There could be a moral in your story but it is so obviously fabricated that the moral it lost and the mass of unsupported evidence.

"Now, Mr. Carter as a group of Negroes we resent the attack that you have made upon the Red Caps of Atlanta. Granting you that there are Red Caps incompetent as there are writers of columns who do the Negro more harm than good. There has never been a car No. 314 lower berth No. 1 leaving Atlanta for New York. You lent color if not truth to your description of the Negroes dialect 'Whar'd you git dat ticket?' Your response was heated enough according to your account but if the ignorant Negro of whom you write placed your bag is without a retort certainly shows that if he did not have dignity he had self control.

"There is nothing, now, about you Mr. Carter so different from the many Negroes that ride pullmans every day that would cause one of these ignorant Red Caps to run to a whtie man and point at you with awe? Or is there? Probably your friend would have done you an added favor if he had secured for you by magic along with your lower berth a little information about the segregation laws in Atlanta and Atlanta. Don't mistake us, we are not approving the law and neither do we feel called upon to break it. Not even for you.

"We like column writers who so forget self that they try to build up and stimulate the Negro to better ways of living rather than destroying what little moral a Negro has in meeting his every day problems.

by (signed) Ernest Edwin Carter
Red Cap No. 22."

I have it that Mr. Carter is hot under the collar. I am sorry that he is hot at me rather than the condition which I described. It may be that since the particular incident which I related occurred type of red cap I mentioned has been eliminated from the service. If this is true I am gratified. I forgive Mr. Carter for his personal attack. He is like many people who indulge in discussions. In the absence of valid argument they resort to vilification. One thing about his letter, however, gives me great concern and that is the sentence "Probably your friend would have done you an added favor if he had secured for you by magic along with your lower berth, a little information about the segregation laws in Atlanta."

I might say that one doesn't have to invoke magice to learn about segregation in Atlanta or anywhere else in the South and many places in the North. It hits you right smack in the teeth when the train pullsout of Washington, or Cincinnati or St. Louis. The purpose of segregation is to perpetuate in the Negro sense of inferiority. And segregation achieves that purpose when the Negro himself feels that he must treat other Negroes differently than he treats white people. That it its greatest danger. I have ridden in Jim Crow Cars in Texas, Alabama, Mississippi, Kentucky, Arkansas, and outside of a little discomfort was not much the worse physically. But if Negroes ever reach the point where they think that they or their kinsmen ought to ride in Jim Crow Cars then the Negro in America is lost.

Give Utmost Service

I know this from experience both as a passenger and as a Pullman porter. I remember not many years ago when a group of us porters working in New England resolved to give every colored passenger on the Pullman cars we manned the very utmost in service. Soon afterwards I recall I had a middle-aged professor of a Southern school on his way to Montreal. In the morning after pushing up his berth, I gave him without solicitation, a nice clean, fresh pillow. I then asked him if he wished a table on which to write. Each porter then as he passed through the car smiled and called out a cheery "good morning, sir" to him and by the time we reached Portland, Maine, every white passenger in the car asked me in a respectful tone "Is that Booker T. Washington?" I have watched the dining car men on the Great Northern and Northern Pacific in their treatment of colored passengers. They are unfailingly polite and pleasant and the effect is always the same, respect on the part of the white passegners and a heightened sense of comfort on the part of the colored passengers.

Finally, in singing out Atlanta, there was no attempt to stigmatize all the Atlanta red caps. Certainly those who have no such feeling of inferiority as that which I encountered will not be enraged. They will just be sorry that any of their fellow-workers should have so completely surrendered to the philosophy of racial contempt.

I am intrigued by the name of my Atlanta critic. My own paternal grandfather came from Social Circle, Georgia, It appears that Ernest E.Ward Carter has some characteristics of the Carters I know.

Opportunities in Barbering Trade

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

Field Open to Women; Income Depends on Ability, Initiative

By W. A. BROWER

[EDITOR'S NOTE—This is the fourth in a series of articles on vocational guidance, as initiated by Dr. Martin D. Jenkins of the Bureau of Educational Research, Howard University. Address your queries to him in Washington, D.C.]

BALTIMORE—In an appraisal of the possibilities in the barbering trade, two impressions are evident, an acute shortage of trained barbers; and a wide open field for young men and women seeking an occupation that will yield a comfortable income.

These views were also expressed by Charles S. Sanders, owner of a barbering school at 1034 Druid Hill Avenue.

A practitioner for more than thirty years, Mr. Sanders regards barbering as a "skillful, cultural practice," and adds that it is "co-ordinated with the normal growth, expansion and development of the community's staple business activities, of which it is a part."

Long regarded as a decadent enterprise, barbering is now undergoing a revival, he observed.

Pay More Equitable

It has been "seriously hampered," by two factors:

(1) Many have become identified with the pursuit as a last resort sideline, and (2) The service offered has never been adequately paid for by the buying public.

The second difficulty has been remedied to a large extent. According to Mr. Sanders, the price now paid for all particulars of the barbering service is "more equitable" than ever before.

It is hard to determine the salary of members of the profession, he pointed out. Those classed as journeymen barbers work on a percentage basis, which leaves them free as individuals to build up their own clientele.

Field for Women

This means that the extent of a practitioner's earnings will depend largely on his own initiative and ability to build a substantial personal patronage.

Educational Requirements

Educational qualifications are flexible. "The idea is to take what one has to offer as a basis or foundation and make it fit for all practical purposes," Mr. Sanders explained.

The outlay of capital required to open a shop is figured similarly to that of any other business undertaking.

"There is no limit to the amount which may be invested where there is a desire to elaborate on modernistic equipment, relaxing comforts and conveniences," he concluded.

(NEXT WEEK—Opportunities for the Beauty Culture Trade.)

NOV 20 1943
NOV 20 1943
NOV 20 1943
DEC 25 1943
DEC 25 1943
SEP 11 1943
SEP 11 1943

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Stick to Job, Negro Urges Domestic Help

W. Allen Murphy, Negro waiter at the Piedmont Driving Club, who, as chairman of the Atlanta Service Group war bond committee, sold $[illegible] worth of war bonds here in July, urged Negro house servants to think of their postwar future before throwing up their jobs for war-industry pay.

In an article written for yesterday's edition of the Augusta (Ga.) Chronicle, he said: "In numerous white homes where the help of reliable colored servants is badly needed and would be appreciated, servants refuse to stay on the job even after higher demands are agreed upon."

This attitude, he pointed out, may provide Negroes "a temporary feeling of relief today, but is a hindrance to the war effort, and if not corrected, will be a hindrance to the peace."

"The profits may not be all cash today, but tomorrow will come with its peace," he added. "We shall need many friends after this war is over. Most of us have to depend on [illegible] friends [illegible] all we need. Why can't we let them depend on us now for what they need?"

35d-1943

It's an Employe's Market Today, With Quality Down and Wages Up

By Emily Towe

Post
Washington, D. C.

In "Junior Miss," the comedy that wound up its run at the National Theater [illegible] a maid, Hilda, who makes an appearance in almost every scene. Renie Riano, who plays Hilda, gives the impression of some cockiness, but she also seems to be a handy person around the house.

Her survival in the role for several weeks here is almost miraculous. Any night I expected to hear that some frantic housewife had slipped up onto the stage, made a rapid, whispered deal with Miss Riano and whisked her away. Not that Miss Riano isn't a fine actress, she is all of that: but what Washington needs now is not a fine actress, but many thousands of servants, and they don't have to be fine.

Despite the Capital's large Negro populace, the number of efficient maids was not adequate even in prewar years. But now in this bulging city the problem has reached a crisis as domestic workers desert brooms and wash tubs for more alluring private and Government jobs.

A maid has become such a prize that prospective employers plead for a place on the priority list of orders in the United States Employment Service Office.

If the lady of the house is lucky enough to get a worker for one day a week, for every other day, or maybe for full time, she concedes privileges and laughs off idiosyncrasies of servants.

Concessions Given

There is the story of the Negro day worker who accepted a job on one condition—she must bring along her 5-year-old daughter. Louella, like other little girls, [illegible] herself while mama swung the broom and duster.

Last week, the employer returned home and found Louella preening herself in front of the bedroom mirror in the lady's new hat with swooping feathers and high-heeled shoes many sizes too large for the childish feet.

The employer laughed after she saw her fragile feathers were intact. She merely rummaged through attic trunks for frilly clothes for Louella to play "grownup" to hear heart's desire. But she locked her closet and explained why in an almost apologetic way to Luella's mother.

More Independent

Mrs. Annabelle McLeod, a Negro employe of the U. S. Employment Service who supervises the domestic servant branch and receives a daily avalanche of calls for maids, conceded that many servants are more independent now in regard to their work because they realize their efforts are a highly desired commodity.

She reminded that the status of domestic servants had not always been "peaches and cream" and suggested that the attitude is a subconscious reaction to previous conditions.

The results of the extreme discrepancy between the old laws of supply and demand in the labor market here are familiar to multiple households—Minnie doesn't care to put up a wash line because that is "man's work" so the housewife's sleeping husband is aroused for the chore . . . a husky cleaning woman refuses to wash windows because she "might fall" so the lady of the house does it herself . . . an elderly servant from Georgia says she wouldn't think of accepting a job unless she could feel at [illegible] with [illegible] . . . the maid telephones she won't be there for a week and blithely recites an excuse . . . a prospective servant advertises for a job and specifies: "If you want me, you can come to my house!"

Can't Fill Orders

K. Vernon Banta, director of the United States Employment Service for the District, has his own explanation for the present crisis.

"The maid servant problem is a secondary matter with us because our primary concern is to place workers in war industries," he explained frankly.

"We actually discourage orders for domestic servants because all of them could not possibly be filled.

"We have a priority list of prospective employers and try to make placements first in those families where women are employed in the war program."

Banta said the Employment Service questions whether or not both man and woman of the family are employed and the type of work in which they are engaged. For example, a woman working at the Navy Yard or with the War Department would probably obtain a maid much sooner than an employe of a department store.

'Part-Time' System

Housewives who remain at home are not on the priority list unless they are ill, have an unusually large family, or other circumstances justify immediate maid service. When healthy, unemployed housewives call, they are told: "We'll take your name but there's no telling when we can send you a maid."

"There is a pronounced tendency for Negro girls to work part time for several employers—one, two or three days a week or perhaps part day throughout the week," Banta continued.

"A worker may have as many as six employers. The girls like this type of work because they make more money and have more independence than they could expect if they were employed on one full-time job. Also, many employers do not require the full-time services of a girl. The occupants give the apartment a lick and a promise at cleaning and let the maid do the heavier work.

"We're receiving numerous calls right now for workers to wash and iron." The delayed laundry service here is responsible for more people cleaning clothes in their homes. These wash women are employed by the day, in many cases reserved for the same day each week.

Few White Domestics

He said the number of white domestics in Washington is meager because the women readily find employment in war jobs. The few who have remained in this type of service are mostly nurse maids for children, governesses, or high school girls working for room and board.

There is no law in the District making health cards essential, but many employers insist that workers produce them, the director said. Often, the employer waits until the personal interview with the maid before suggesting that the worker obtain the certificate.

Wages have jumped from 50 to 100 per cent over the prewar level.

The Negro day worker who formerly received $2 a day with carfare is now earning from $3 to $4 with carfare. Full-time servants sent out by the employment service are paid on an average of $18 to $20 weekly for a full-time job in comparison with the $10 weekly average of prewar days.

Less Efficient Now

During July, a light month in calls received, 2500 orders came in for maids for both part-time and full jobs, but only 1500 placements could be made. Heaviest seasons are spring and fall housecleaning periods and as an example 3000 calls came in during May with only [illegible] placements.

Discussing skill of domestic servants now as compared with prewar days, Banta said: "On the whole, the workers are not as efficient these days. The reason is obvious.

"Alert Negro women who formerly went to domestic service because they could not use their ability in other jobs are now working successfully for the Government and in war industries.

"Many Negro women, not qualified to obtain domestic jobs before the war, are employed now because of the acute demand. Employers are glad to get them and put up with a lower level of efficiency because of the great need."

Another Cause

Banta has seen the domestic servant shortage rising in a direct ratio with the increase of women working outside the home—a tendency that arose even before the war but heightened in this time of emergency.

Reminding that conditions have not always been rosy for domestic servants and that even now under the changed status many maids are facing difficulties, a representative of the Domestic Workers Union suggested that both sides of the picture should be considered before the workers are criticized, solely for "independent actions."

Mrs. Anna Stein, an organizing aide for the independent union which has made application to affiliate with the Congress of Industrial Organizations, said the group is working for "stabilization of our position on the same level with workers of other industries with regard to wages, hours, and social insurance benefits."

Mrs. Stein said that the wage level, set by the union at $20 for a 48-hour week or 50 cents an hour for day workers, are not as severe problem as hours.

Many girls are still working 14 hours a day, she explained, adding "the union stands for an 8-hour day and 48-hour week."

Demands Are Met

"We do not want to disrupt the family life of people employed in war industries so we urge our members to negotiate with their employers on their present job to obtain union standards," Mrs. Stein continued.

"Our demands are reasonable and most employers have met them," she said. "If the worker and employer cannot reach an agreement, our grievance committee negotiates for the maid. If discussions still fall through, the worker is free to look for another job. We have our own employment service which receives many more calls than we can fill, so it is easy for a maid to find other work."

The independent union, organized the first of this year, has 75 members, both white and Negro.

Some prospective employers seek to solve their [illegible] problems by inserting newspaper classified advertisements. Circumstances and sheer luck determine the results. However, a young mother who needed a Negro girl to help with the baby recently received 20 telephone calls in response to this ad in The Post: "Part-time maid wanted. Telephone ——."

But then the independence and freedom of choice possible under the present labor conditions appeared prominently in the answers of prospective maids. One-half stated definitely that the house was just too far out for their convenience. Two or three had no intention of "looking after baby." The remainder of the servants were asking too much in wages—above the 50c an hour standard. However, the advertisement did yield good results and a maid was procured.

Servants Take First Step Towards Unionization

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

C.I.O. Man Urges Move

Joseph D. Cannon, Louisville, regional director of the C.I.O. for Kentucky, addressed the meeting and told the club members and others that the C.I.O. had spread from the steel-workers to the "forgotten women," in seven "union welfare" fields.

Cannon told the domestic servants' club, said she would when household workers began to protest that family life of people employed in war industries so we urge our members to negotiate with their employers on their present job to obtain union standards," Mrs. Stein continued.

"Our demands are reasonable and most employers have met them," she said. "If the worker and employer cannot reach an agreement, our grievance committee negotiates for the maid. If discussions still fall through, the worker is free to look for another job. We have our own employment service which receives many more calls than we can fill, so it is easy for a maid to find other work."

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Phyllis Wheatley Y.W.C.A.

Initial steps leading to the organization in Louisville of a domestic servants' labor union, probably under the wing of the C.I.O., were taken yesterday at a mass meeting sponsored by the

was formed several months ago at the club, said she would when household workers began to protest that family life of people employed in war industries so we urge our members to negotiate with their employers on their present job to obtain union standards," Mrs. Stein continued.

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Some prospective employers seek to solve their [illegible] problems by inserting newspaper classified advertisements. Circumstances and sheer luck determine the results. However, a young mother who needed a Negro girl to help with the baby recently received 20 telephone calls in response to this ad in The Post: "Part-time maid wanted. Telephone ——."

But then the independence and freedom of choice possible under the present labor conditions appeared prominently in the answers of prospective maids. One-half stated definitely that the house was just too far out for their convenience. Two or three had no intention of "looking after baby." The remainder of the servants were asking too much in wages—above the 50c an hour standard. However, the advertisement did yield good results and a maid was procured.

Joseph D. Cannon, Louisville, workers that so regional director of the C.I.O. for get as high as $3 Kentucky, addressed the meeting in the rolling mi and told the club members and need not expect others that the C.I.O. had spread kitchen." He sa from the steel-for working stan "union welfare" hold servants ha fields. Government and that "it is up to you to improve your own conditions."

Protested Stamp-Taking.

The Domestic Servants' Club, Mrs. Myrtle Bowman, direct

Atlanta NAACP Fights Job Order On Domestics

Courier Pittsburgh, P

ATLANTA, Aug. 19 (ANP)—The Atlanta branch NAACP, Wednesday lodged protest with Gov. Ellis B. Arnall and sought the aid of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in probing a warning issued by the mayor of Barnesville, Ga., to "men and women, who have been employed as cooks and nurses and who are not now employed" to work or be arrested and prosecuted.

The warning, printed on a circular, according to Chairman A. T. Walden of the Atlanta branch's legal redress committee, "is directed at domestic servants who have been receiving pensions and allotments from the government, and who, presumably, are not now working on account of such support." Virtually all domestic servants in Barnesville, it was pointed out, are Negroes and the warning order is "inherently capable of producing disharmony and dissatisfaction in our ranks."

MAYOR'S EDICT

The text of the official warning by Mayor Harvey J. Kennedy of Barnesville was as follows:

"Those living in the city of Barnesville, whether men or women, who have been employed as cooks and nurses, and who are not now employed will be arrested and prosecuted and no excuse except a certificate from a physician will be accepted.

"Those who do not like the terms of this warning must realize that we all, regardless of financial means, must either work, fight or leave this city. This is the final warning. The police force of the city has been instructed to enforce this warning."

DOMESTIC SERVICE PROBLEMS

Down in Barnesville, Georgia, not so long ago the mayor of the town issued a proclamation which raises for discussion the problems of domestic service. With plenty of jobs in other fields to be had, and with money flowing more freely than it has for quite some time, it is well known that many people have left the field of domestic service. One of the outstanding reasons lies in the unreasonably low wages which have been paid by many employers of domestic help.

In the face of this situation the mayor of Barnesville proclaimed: "Those living in the city of Barnesville, whether men or women, who have been employed as cooks and nurses, and who are not now employed, will be arrested and prosecuted, and no excuse except a certificate from a physician will be accepted."

Not a word is said about slave wages and hours. If these and working conditions should be made fair and decent, the mayor would not have to issue a proclamation to try to get people to work.

Another Club Lie Spiked In Miss.

Atlanta, Georgia Daily World

NATCHEZ, Miss.—(A N P)—Contrary to widespread rumor awhile back, Negro citizens denied that "Eleanor" clubs had been organized in Natchez, and now as sucessor comes the purported "Disappointment" club, described as a "standing up" of white employers by Negro servants.

Although Negroes comprise 50 per cent of the 18,000 population of Natchez, the problem of obtaining domestic help as growing increasingly difficult, local white citizens observe. Higher wages for the Negro men who remain at home and allotments from relatives in the armed forces account for the death of female help.

Negro cooks, a southern tradition for years, are quitting their jobs, maids are at a premium, and laundry proprietors claim that they are closing their shops; "retiring" from the business.

It is said that the member who reports the greatest "disappointment" at the weekly meeting of the club is awarded a prize. The current prize winner is said to be the cook of a Natchez matron who had made preparations for the arrival of a number of guests when the cook reported "sick" and remained away until the guests had left.

Increased wages for domestic help have offered no incentive, "for the dusty erstwhile presiding geniuses of the kitchen have apparently settled down to enjoy war benefits for the duration," local whites complain.

Finds Two Reasons For Shortage Of Domestics

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

By JOEL W. SMITH

Figures released from the office of the Community Employment Service, Room 408 Odd Fellows Building, by W. J Shaw, manager, indicate that there is a definite shortage of domestic and personal service workers in the metropolitan area of Atlantan.

While a total of 3600 workers were placed by this agency, from January through July, Manager Shaw stated that this represented about one-third of the calls received for workers in various types of service occupations during this period "Before the war," he explained," we were able to fill between 80 and 90 percent of the requests, but at present we place only about 33.3 percent.

A few short-sighted heads of families, who are unable to get household servants, frequently infer that many Negroes have stopped work because they are receiving dependency allotments or pensions. Manager Shaw discounted such reports and added that even if true, this would be a reflection on the American economy. The implication, is that the standard of living for these workers must have been comparatively low, if they are able to retire on the small amount received through allotments and pensions.

To the contrary, the present shortage of domestic help was attributed to the following factors: (1) the shift of domestic workers to job offering more pay and shorter hours. (2) migration of more than 3,000 families into the Atlanta area from other sections of the country and their demand for domestic help, with increased pay; and (3) the fact that many families, previously unable to hire servants are now in a position to do so.

At present the active files of applicants for work are practically exhausted, and members of the Community Employment Service staff are now trying to contact prospective workers through the mail.

There have been several favorable outcomes of the impact of the war on workers engaged in domestic and personal service. The Community Employment Service has placed several gilrs in downtown office buildings as elevator operators, as well as a large number of waitresses in downtown drugstores. Practically all of these girls have made good in these positions, and many have been promoted to higher positions, with salary increases This agency has also placed a large number of girls in clerical positions.

While the majority of workers in service occupations continue to work for sub-standard wages, especially when one considers the increased cost of living, there has been some improvement in the salary scale. Workers in downtown buildings and drugstores now average from $14 or $15 up per week. Household servants average from $7 to $9, and carfare, in comparison to the $4 50 or $5.50 weekly wage before the war. Day fare, instead of the previous rate workers are paid $1.75 and carfare, instead of the previous rate of of $1.00 per day.

Regarding the employment of household servants by colored families, it was pointed that the wages compared favorably with that received in white families and that in many instances, the hours were much better.

It is significant that many families are changing their attitude toward domestic servants and don't let them go as easily as they did before the war.

Even families with an exceptionally high turnover rate a few

The chief handicap to persons engaged in service occupations is that they are unorganized, and as a result unable to bargain collectively. Then too, the prices are fixed by a collusion of employers in various neighborhoods. It is also true that there has been no labor legislation in southern states to improve and regulate the hours and wages of servants in private homes.

The Community Employment has not only handled the larger number or requests received directly, but has handled much of the traffic of the United States Employment Service. This office has also cooperated with social agencies in their effort to rehabilitate individuals andm place them into gainful pursuits.

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa

Murphy Denies Telling Servants to Stay on Job

ATLANTA, Ga. — (ANP) — The victim of wholesale censure on the part of Negro leaders here, W. Allen Murphy, Piedmont Driving club writer, whose admonition to domestics "not to desert the kitchen for higher paying war jobs," was given wide publicity through the Southern white press last week, Wednesday did a complete about-face and denied that he had made such

New York, N. Y. Amsterdam News

War Plant Penalized For Refusing Negroes

CLEVELAND, O. — War plants in this area that refuse to employ Negro men and women will lose their labor priority, which entitles them to preferential recruitment of additional workers by the U. S. Employment Service, Dr. William P. Edmunds, WMC director, announced Monday.

"No company has the right to claim that it has a priority on the

Sign Of Progress

Edmunds took action after Miss Mary C. Schauffler, assistant director in charge of Negro labor, disclosed that plants employing over 100 people had not hired a single Negro. Three of these companies were removed immediately from the labor priority list.

Miss Schauffler further revealed that there are said that 8,000 employable Negro women unable to obtain jobs in war factories.

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Trouble at Western Electric Plant:

War Plant Votes Strike Over Jimcro Facilities

OCT 16 1943

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

BALTIMORE (ANP) — A strike for separate facilities for Negro and white workers at the Western Electric Company Point Breeze plant was voted last week under provisions of the Smith-Connally anti-strike legislation.

With less than half of the nearly 7,000 employees of the plant voting, 60.5 favored a strike and 39.4 dissented, with 0.1 of the ballots ruled void.

The voting was held under the supervision of a white field examiner for the National Labor Relations board, which ordered the vote on petition of the Point Breeze Employees' association. A petition of about 1,600 of its members declared they were opposed to the same sanitary facilities for both races at the plant.

The Western Electric managemen has long been recognized for its liberal policy in adhering to Presidential order 8802, which prohibits discrimination in war industries on account of race, creed, color or national orgin, and has steadfastly refused to established separate facilities at the behest of what it believed to be a minority of the white employees.

The company's officials have insisted that they believed their policy was workable, and even after the results of the balloting had not given any indication that they would institute a change.

Under the conditions of the Smith-Connally act, the strike vote has to be certified by the NLRB, the War Labor board, the department of labor and the president, and hearing is then set for discussion of the parties involved before the actual work stoppage is begun.

The employees' association was order dissolved by the NLRB, in September, as the bargaining agency for the employees, because, the federal board charged, it was company dominated.

Leaders In The South Defend Unionism

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

See Collective Bargaining As Constructive

NASHVILLE — (ANP) — Outstanding southern educators and citizens defended labor unions and collective bargaining as strong constructive forces in community life, in last week's edition of the Southern Patriot, official organ of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare.

Dr. Fleming James, dean of the school of theology of the University of the South, Sewanee, Tenn., described labor unions as a "strong constructive force in the economic and political life of our nations.

"If industry is to thrive, said Dr. Ralph E. Wager, professor of education, Emory University, Atlanta, "it will do so only as it learns to share and cooperate."

Said Judge Louise O. Charlton, U. S. commissioner of Alabama, "Unions, both craft and industry have been potent factors in the long evolution of man from his conditions of slavery, poverty and ignorance."

The CIO "represents workers as workers," said Dr. Clark Foreman of Black Mountain College, president of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, "without un-American discriminations because of race, creed or color, it deserves much greater recognition in our state."

Said Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, president emeritus of Bethune-Cookman College and president of the National Council of Negro Women:

"Representing 800,000 women of this country, we feel deeply the responsibility to accept the democratic way of trade unionism, not from a spirit of perpetrating racial discord and clashes, but rather as a sound means of avoiding such clashes."

CHURCH EDITOR SPEAKS

Dr. Harold A. Ehrensperger, Nashville, editor of Motive and leader of Methodist youth, asserted:

"The principle of collective bargaining and the right of workers to freely join unions of their own choice are as basic to a democracy as the four freedoms."

"I cannot but deplore the effect to circumvent the peaceful processes of the nation's labor laws," said Tarleton Collier of the Louisville Courier Journal.

P. B. Young, publisher of the Journal and Guide, Norfolk, Va., said "The labor union movement is as essential to democracy as the manufacturers association, the retail merchant association or the chamber of commerce."

A hearing officer of the WLB, Dr. Alva W. Taylor of Nashville, wrote that workers in their "efforts to unionize to obtain better contracts have been reasonable, peaceful, able and in every way patriotic and have asked nothing more than the law allows."

"Every worker should join his union," said the Rev. Edward Maxted, retired Episcopalian minister, Warrington, Fla., "and all far-seeing and fair-minded employers should welcome a union and work with it."

LETTERS RECEIVED

In addition to the letters used, letters were received from a number of others endorsing the labor unions as such. Among the writers were Dr. Gordon B. Hancock, Virginia Union University; Dr. W. K. Febinson, director, secondary school study, Atlanta University, and Prof. Wallace Jackson, librarian, Atlanta University.

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Negro Migration

Tribune
(Philadelphia, Pa. News)

GEORGE S. SCHUYLER, NOTED columnist of New York, is dove-tailing his efforts with the highly influentia Pittsburgh Courier in encouraging the migration of Negroes from the South to Northern and Eastern cities. These writers in urging members of the racial group to leave their established homes and interests in the South, describe conditions in other sections as the "gold at the end of the rainbow," and in so advising, are unquestionably doing a vast majority of those who follow such suggestions irreparable injury.

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There is no question but that Northern and Eastern leadership of the Negro race in business, education, religion and affairs political want as many southern Negroes to move into their communities as possible. It is perfectly plain to the most casual observer that such institutions were practically of little importance until the First War period when thousands of Negroes deserted the South for those communities North and East where their patronage was promptly enlisted in support of Negro projects there.

As the Southern brethern invaded their new territory, they did cause the schools, churches and Negro business interests to blossom forth as the green bay tree. At the same time, vexatious and annoying problems developed as concerned the two races, which in many instances, caused our brothers of the North and East to throw up their hands in alarm as they deplored the large influx of Negroes into their otherwise peaceful districts. Many of the Negro highbrows of the Northern and Eastern centers complained of what they termed a lack of culture and the exhibition of disorderly attitudes that served to embarass them greatly.

Rights of citizens of our nation to move to any section of our land or to live wherever they may desire is beyond question, but those who make changes in residence seeking to avoid annoying problems, both racial and economic, will find that all sections, north, south, east or west will furnish annoyances plenty, especially in times like the world is experiencing today. In recent years, Negroes are encountering discriminatory attitudes, prejudice and flagrant hostilities in Boston as well as Birmingham; in Portland in equal proportion as in Pensacola; in Seattle and San Diego. Running away from annoying conditions has never proved a proper or adequate solution of the conditions complained of.

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There is not the slightest inclination to wage the contention that educational advantages and working conditions together with ample protection under the law are not far superior in the north and east to those of many sections of the Southland. Notwithstanding such, there are thousands of Negroes who were born in the South; have lived in the South and will continue their residences in the South until they answer the final summons, despite the invitation, urge or "siren song" of many of the colored brethren of the North, who are desirous of having the "mountain placed at the foot of Mohammet."

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In fact, judging from the lack of accomplishments of many thousands of young Negroes of the larger cities of the North and East, it is often opined by thoughtful observers that the situations complained of as concerns Negroes of the South would be decidedly remedied if a majority of these northerners would make up their minds to engage in some worthwhile activity and then invade the South for the purpose of lending a helpful hand in offering their services to the thousands of their racial group in rural sections of the South, who need the services of doctors, dentists, mechanics, lawyers and the like. The tendency of many young Negroes to win their degrees in the professions, trek to some large city where they hang out a shingle only to lounge about the office and live from hand to mouth, is true in far too many instances.

The inclination is uppermost in mind to suggest to Mr. Schuyler and our esteemed contemporary, The Pittsburgh Courier, to send well trained Negro young men and women from the large cities of the North and East into the Southern centers, there to join hands with the Negroes and fair-minded whites in correcting the evils complained of. Post-war times will prove most opportune for such movements and eventually the southern portion of our nation will offer the same advantages boasted of by our brethren of the North and East.

Attorney General Would Ban Migration Of Colored Workers To Northern Cities

ACCORDING to the New York Post, Atty. Gen. Biddle has recommended to the White House that colored workers be prohibited from moving into overcrowded production centers.

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He is represented as requesting that colored workers be prevented from entering Detroit, where 34 people were killed and 850 injured recently.

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It is unthinkable that the chief law enforcement officer of the United States Government would make such a suggestion. In the first place, he must know as a man trained in the law that it is unlawful to prohibit the free movement of American citizens from one place to another.

The Attorney General thinks that overcrowding in war production centers is the cause for racial tension. If that is true, why select colored workers as a special class to be barred? Do not other workers cause overcrowded conditions?

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Furthermore, the migration of workers chiefly from the South to the North consists of the submerged workers of both races, anxious to escape the intolerable labor conditions in the South.

Unfortunately, too many of the southern whites who flee the South attempt to enforce their racial attitudes in their new environment. They lack sufficient intelligence to realize that these same racial prejudices were responsible for the horrible conditions which they left.

It should be impressed upon Mr. Biddle that this attempt to appease the mobocrats is just one step removed from slavery.

A Dangerous Suggestion

New York, N. Y.

Government action to halt future riots, according to Attorney General Francis Biddle, would be concentrated on banning Negro migration from the south to northern industrial areas, the New York Post said last week. The Attorney General's recommendations were improved housing for Negroes and a suggestion to President Roosevelt that he set up a committee to organize a national educational campaign to promote racial understanding.

There should be no minicing of words in condemning Mr. Biddle's proposals, both of them, for in them are dangerous precedents which can be used to throw a monkey wrench into every progressive the Negro has taken since the war began. He has in a few words summed up the lack of understanding of the problems affecting the domestic scene in Washington that being so widely criticised from all sides. It may be mentioned

Amsterdam News

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Here that Mr. Biddle called a secret conference last month in Philadelphia with fifty of his assistants and presumably talked about race riots, Negroes and whites, for three days behind closed doors. An AMSTERDAM NEWS reporter sent to cover the meeting was refused admittance and was refused any quotation by Mr. Biddle save the terse, tight statement that "you may say I am very deeply concerned over these riots."

The utter absurdity of Biddle's recommendation that Negroes be barred by the government from moving anywhere they want to in these supposedly free United States must be apparent even to Mr. Biddle himself.

It is indeed queer that a person holding a key position in our government, the division that has to do with one of the tenets of constitutional freedom, the Department of Justice, should show his complete lack of knowledge of what the constitution guarantees as has Mr. Biddle in this instance. Granting that there is danger in the shifting of segments of the population from one part of the nation to another in search of better opportunities and escape from inequalities, there is no law that prohibits such movements. The restraints and checks Mr. Biddle

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would put into being through Presidential Proclamation, presumably, would be an official directive from the White House upholding discrimination as a national policy and condoning segregation as the basic philosophy of a democracy supposedly established to protect the rights of mankind.

If Mr. Biddle would take the trouble to study the conditions (which he evidently did not) he would find that the setting up of another Jim Crow scheme on top of an old one cannot solve the problem of racial maladjustment that is behind the race riots in Harlem, Detroit, Beaumont, Texas and elsewhere.

He would find that the policy of the government would call for tangible action along lines of making people, white and colored do right in these days of war under penalty that would be strictly and sternly imposed. He would find that lynchings would be under control if the government did less investigating and more punishing, especially when the facts practically jump at the law enforcers. He would find that race rioting would be wiped out if the people were given to understand that the government does not intend to tolerate race riots and that such rioting during wartime is considered a crime against the federal government.

Negroes migrate from the South daily; an estimated thousand a day get of buses, trains, trucks and automobiles in Chicago and Detroit trying to find jobs on which they can decently support their families and at the same time, live and breathe in an atmosphere more free than that which they fled. The restlessness of the Southern Negro, is chafing at the injustices he is forced to suffer while the nation of which he is allegedly a citizen fights to bring its conception of government to people in other lands, only mirrors the great awakening that is going on among all of the people, white and Negro, and of which Mr. Biddle and his fifty assistants know apparently nothing.

Here For "Duration"

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia



Where Bahamans Live on Eastern Shore



Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Bahamans working on Maryland's Eastern shore live in buildings like these which are lighted by oil lamps. Usually only a man and his wife stays here, or maybe several girls. Very few of the windows have screens. The officials' quarters have electric lights. Shown in the picture are Princton Nooks and Albert Rolle, AFRO guides.

"Don't Take Any Foolishness," Windsor Advised Bahamans

Eastern Shore Laborers Advised by Governor General on U.S.

By DOUGLASS HALL
(Staff Correspondent)

SALISBURY, Md.—The Duke of Windsor, now governor of the Bahamas, was credited by a Bahama worker this week with advising his subjects coming to America "not to take any foolishness" while in this country.

"He talked to us," the worker stated, "and shook our hands. He told us to do a good job in the States but not to work too hard and not to take any foolishness.

"He said for us to keep clean and for us to write him if things were not going well."

According to reports, the workers change their underclothes at least twice a day when it is hot, and often walk off the job in bands when the work becomes too hard.

Accept Jim Crow

The men and women know of the segregated pattern of this State and are willing to abide by it "as long as we are here and the people are nice to us."

"The people back home explained to us how to act," one of them stated, "and we are trying to do right, but if we make an error we don't want any one jumping on us."

Don't Get Enough Food

The laborers in this Eastern Shore project are housed in tents and small wooden barracks located seven miles from town. City cab drivers charge them $1.50 per trip plus five cents per minute for waiting.

The camp is convenient for highway transportation, but sanitary conditions around living quarters were quite hazardous. Containers overflowing with garbage and other debris were nearby.

The workers' main complaint is that they do not get enough food, and that it is not cooked well. They pay 35 cents per meal.

The kitchen is a smallbuilding located directly behind a long barrack which is used for the dining and recreation halls, and church. Both are bad, but improvements are underway. A new kitchen with three army stoves, is under construction.

Bid for Workers

The busiest time in camp is about 5:30 a.m. when local farmers drive their trucks to camp and bid for services of the men.

a woman becomes
s sent back home
of the baby.
th certificate com
suit on—
material, too.

Both sexes like bright colored clothes. While I was writing, this worker passed with a bright pink made out of good

The camp's staff is headed by Frank Teahan, manager, who has been there only three days. He promised great improvement. Assistant Manager Charles Whitaker.

women work
. It is the first
f them to straight
here. Whenever a wo
pregnant she is sen
for the birth of th
keeps down birth ce
plications.

Many of the
cannery nearby. It
There are many women here
time for most of them
The unemployed
allowed to
they had relatives

Many Women Here

Many of these men send most of their spare cash home with the Bahamas each week for insurance.

"Who wants to pick beans?"

"Number 1134 . . . 3234"

The men have a choice of the work they want to do and are known by their passport numbers. Once in the field, farmers are given a check-sheet, and at the end of each day they pay—to the office—the standard price for each man. The men average between $22 and $33 each week.

Seventy-five cents of which goes back to the Bahamas each week for

Wear Bright Colors

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Biddle Takes Low as Heat Is Turned On

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

In an exchange of correspondence with Lester Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban League, Attorney General Biddle made three points:

1. That his letter to President Roosevelt was confidential
2. That he does not think that the free movement of any individuals—colored or white—should be prevented, "except as war requirements for manpower must be met
3. That he knows of no "present plan" to prohibit migration.

Passing Parade

By FRANK MARSHALL DAVIS for ANP
Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Biddle And A Bill

AUG 29 1943

NEGRO AMERICANS face the greatest threat to their freedom since emancipation if Atty. Gen. Francis Biddle has his way and if the Austin Wadsworth national service bill is passed when congress meets again on September 14.



In a memorandum, the attorney general reported on the Detroit riots and recommended limiting or putting an end to Negro migrations "into communities which cannot absorb them, either on account of their physical limitations or cultural backgrounds." The White House, realizing the dynamite in this thoroughly fascist proposal, has categorically denied ever receiving such a communication but for the record and to refresh short memories, Biddle's letter, signed by him was addressed to President Roosevelt and is dated July 15.

The national service bill, sponsored by Sen. Austin (Rep., Vt.) and Rep. Wadsworth (Rep., N. Y.) would authorize Mt. Roosevelt to prescribe regulations under which every man between 18 and 65 and every woman between 19 and 50 could be assigned to war jobs through the draft system. Both the AFL and the CIO are bitter opponents, and many White House advisers are against this bill, calling it a form of slavery and pointing out that it would force persons against their will to work for employers seeking private profit.

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NEGROES ENDANGERED

It takes little imagination to see how the draft labor bill could be used against Negroes by unscrupulous and prejudiced aides who will have power particularly in southern regions. And if Mr. Roosevelt, while insisting publicly he has received no such anti-migration proposal from Biddle and deciding privately to follow this policy, uses this quietly in connection with the administration of the Austin-Wadsworth bill, the clock will turn backward for black America.

Suppose Sam Johnson, a $12 a week drugstore porter in Mobtown, Miss., wanted to go to Detroit at the urging of friends to get a $60 weekly job in a war plant. Since Detroit is an area to which, the attorney general feels, further Negro migration must be stopped, he would not be sold a ticket there.

In fact, under the broad power of Biddle's suggestion, Mobtown officials would have the power to prevent any Negro from going anywhere, on the ground that the destination, no matter where, "could not absorb him." And any strange Negro entering Mobtown could be turned back or arrested for the same reason.

FIELD DAY OPENING

Obviously nobody is going to make a study of each of the thousands of communities in America and decide whether that area can "absorb" Negroes and then report to Washington, with copies of the official decision and rating going to all bus and rail stations and all local authorities throughout the nation. The cost and time involved are too tremendous to contemplate. Any other method of determining would be left to local option, thus giving the sadists and colorphobists, both north and south, a field day.

Add that to the labor draft bill and you've really got something. With virtually every Negro man and woman capable of working subject to the whims of local draft boards, it would be a simple matter for Detroit or Chicago or New York draft officials to decide that Amos Black ought to be shipped to Alabama to work on a farm (an essential war industry), or for some big plant that didn't want Negroes in the first place to see to it that its area banned further Negro migration and then brought in white workers from all parts of the country through the Austin Wadsworth measure.

NOT FANCIFUL

This is not fanciful. This is a condition that may exist before the end of this year, either quietly or openly. And we might as well start fighting this thing now. You have your congressmen and your senators; write to them and tell them to oppose this labor draft bill, and tell the White House that you are completely against the Biddle design for greater fascism. And then tell your clubs, your organizations, your union, your leaders to do likwise.

As for Biddle, he has proved himself a midget in a giant's job. About the best thing that can be said about him is that he made a gesture of fighting lynching by invoking the federal civil rights laws and indicting southern whites. But against the [illegible] in the peonage cases that [illegible] been brought to his attention, and Atty. William Henry Huff of the Abolish Peonage committee can tell you plenty; his attempt to deport Harry Bridges, the west coast labor leader who has been a friend to Negro trade unionists; his groundless contention in the Schneiderman case, and his anti-labor opinion which would permit two disgruntled unionists to call a strike vote.

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AGAINST BROADCAST

His proposed ban on Negro migration, clearly contrary to the principles of American democracy, would penalize the numerically weaker Americans for wanting full citizenship rights in northern communities where they have a fairly decent chance of getting them, while doing nothing at all to curb the free movement of white southerners who are determined to keep the Negro down and carry this fascist attitude with them whenever they migrate to more liberal areas.

Biddle, in this same communicatioin, also advised the President against making a broadcast to discuss the tense race situation, suggesting that if he had anything to say, let it be done as a part of some regular radio talk on the domestic situation.

It ought to be evident that a special talk devoted wholly to the race situation is at this time of vital importance, and that only strong words and a strong stand are going to avert future riots. The President is the one person to make it plain that the constitution makes no distinction as to color or ancestry, that all citizens have the same rights, and that our laws must apply to black and white equally.

A strong attorney general would see to it that any violation of federal statutes would be punishable to the full extent of the law and that during the present crisis, of all times, when the nation is supposedly fighting against oppression and for the four freedoms, there must be no distinctions based on race or creed or color.

But that strong attorney general is not Piddling Biddle.

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

Opposes Proposed To Ban Migration

Director, March on Washington Movement

By A. PHILIP RANDOLPH

Sir: The letter quoted below brings out my attitude on the proposed policy to eliminate migration laws:

Honorable Francis Biddle
U. S. Attorney General
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I note in a recent news item which states that you are recommending to the White House that the government limit and possibly prohibit further migration of Negroes to overcrowded war production centers. You can readily see how this will be interpreted in relation to the Negro. It will be used to limit the employment opportunities of Negroes in their efforts to secure work in war plants. Moreover, as I see it, it is a violation of the Constitution, because it limits the freedom of movement of American citizens. Instead of preventing race riots, it will help constitute a fuse which may touch off the social, economic, racial, political magazine of dynamite which is the result of a long series of injustices and abuse and discrimination and segregation to which the Negro people have been subjected.



A. P. RANDOLPH

Harmony Threatened

As one who is interested in racial peace and the victory of the United Nations over the Nazi theories of racialism and tyranny, I want to urge you to rescind this order, if it has been made, in the interest of racial co-operation and harmony. This proposed policy is the grossest kind of segregation and discrimination. What about the poor whites who are flowing from the rural districts of the South into the war production centers? Nothing is suggested about limiting their migration, but they are the main carriers of the germ of racial hatred and are certain to create trouble unless the causes of race riots are fearlessly and constructively dealth with. These causes are segregation in the armed forces, defense plants and government departments as well as on various means of transportation, housing, recreation, law enforcement, e[illegible]

AUG 24 1943

Suggested solution

I am sure that upon careful examination of the national situation in regard to race relations, you will see the fallacy of this proposed policy. It is not the increase of the Negro population in war production centers that causes race riots, but it is the fact that Negroes have never gotten a fair break, and just and reasonable opportunities in any phase of American life, that is at the bottom of these conflicts. One of the most fundamental and immediate remedies for these social explosions at the present time would be for the President to issue a national proclamation abolishing segregation in the armed forces. Nothing would be more effective than this.

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Granger Offers Plan

AUG 27 1943

AUG 1943

AUG 21 1943

Attorney General Biddle has denied categorically recommending the imposition of a ban on colored workers from the South to war production areas.

AUG [illegible] 1943

In a letter to Lester B. Granger, executive secretary of the Urban League, Biddle wrote: "I would like to emphasize the fact that I know of no pre[illegible]

sent plan to prohibit migration [illegible] newspaper, in which Biddle [illegible] —either private or governmen[illegible] was alleged to have recom[illegible] tal, either white or Negro [illegible] mended the placing of a ban [illegible] that is now being considered. [illegible] on the migration of colored [illegible] Granger had written the At[illegible] workers from the South to war [illegible] torney General, enclosing copy [illegible] production centers. [illegible] of a statement to the press, bas[illegible] Granger suggested to the [illegible] ed on a story in a New York [illegible] newspapers, organizations, [illegible] General that a provision [illegible]

papers, the NAACP, the Urban League, schools and colleges and fraternal groups as the kinds of organizations he had in mind.

In reply to this suggestion, the Attorney General wrote: "I do not think any effort should be made to prevent the free movement of individuals from one place to another, whether Negro or white, except as war requirements for manpower must be met. The whole problem seems to be one which requires careful study and research before any program can be worked out, and particularly study by those private organizations which are devoted to Negro welfare."

Walter White, executive secretary of the NAACP, and A. Philip Randolph, of the March on Washington Movement, both criticized the suggestion.

"Not even Rankin (Rep. John Rankin of Mississippi) has made so diabolical a proposal," White commented.

Randolph suggested that "nothing would be more effective" in remedying these social explosions as for the President to issue a national proclamation abolishing segregation in the armed forces."

In a statement issued Saturday, John H. Sengstacke, president of the Negro Newspaper Publishers Association, and publisher of the Chicago Defender, went on record opposing the recommendation which it has been reported that Attorney General Biddle made to President Roosevelt proposing that the migration of Negroes be ended or restricted.

Sengstacke urged that instead of national unity being strained further by such an unwise and impractical move, that the government immediately undertake to finance a sound program of housing commensurate with the needs now existing in large industrial centers where dark workers have been called like other Americans, to work in war plants.

Buck Is Passed In Making Provision For In-Migrants

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9—There is a nation-wide crisis in housing facilities for Negro war workers which gravely threatens to retard war production and to limit use of Negro workers to mee the increasingly acute manpower shortage.

Information on key war centers available here indicated that the Negro population in Los Angeles had increased 138 per cent in the space of months, with Negro migrants coming into the area at the rate of 3,500 a month. In Baltimore, Negroes, constituting 20 per cent of the total population, are crowded into 2 per cent of the residential area. To Detroit, each week, are streaming 12 to 14 hundred persons, the majority of them Negro women.

600 FAMILIES MUST VACATE

Here in the Nation's capital, this week, 600 Negro families are being evicted from an area needed to complete a Naval station, while 300 other families have been living in overcrowded trailers for more than a year with no housing available. In Buffalo, N. Y., following a two and a half-year-old wrangle as to whether Negroes should be permitted to occupy sites in areas where they had not lived before, the National Housing agency has finally capitulated to local pressures and programmed a project which calls for tearing down 200 Negro dwellings and erecting 316, thus wasting vast quantities of critical war materials.

John B. Blandford, Jr., National Housing agency administrator, announced last week programming of 3,200 units of housing in Washington, 2,00 in Detroit, 12 to 14 hundred in Baltimore, and 3,200 in Los Angeles. He indicated that 7 per cent of all programmed war housing had been for Negro occupancy and that 8.4 per cent of monies spent from public funds had been put to this use.

But, despite these hopeful signs, thep roblem remains and promises to grow worse unless decisive changes of policy occur both in the NHA here and in the field.

POWER DIRECTED TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES

"In the matter of site selection and occupancy," said Blandford, "the NHA has pursued the policy of delegating to local housing authorities the power to select sites and determine who shall occupy the houses. Where no local authorities have existed we have sought to ascertain the local patterns of the community and have based our policy of site selection and occupancy on these local patterns."

It is the application of this policy which has contributed to the present crisis. In Baltimore, for example, four or five months were wasted in the attempt to over-ride local white opposition to the Negro project.

CONSTRUCTION OFTEN STYMIED

In fact, in a number of cases, where urgent immediate need for Negro housing existed, consultation with local housing authorities or attempted determination of "local patterns" by NHA has resulted in delaying construction of the needed project.

"No Negro workers will be permitted occupancy in Willow Lodge," stated Bandford, referring to the new 3,000-unit dormitory erected in connection with the Ford Willow Run Bombing plant, near Detroit. "We have programmed this project for white occupancy," he said, "and we had better stick to this program rather than vacillate. That was the trouble at Sojourner Truth."

CITES OTHER PROJECTS

Blandford justified this position on the ground that adequate housing had been programmed for the Negro in-migrant workers in projects at Inkster and Ypsilanti, Investigation of figures of Negro housing made available in connection with this project indicated, however, that only about seven or eight hundred units were for Negroes, out of total of more than ten thousand.

Out of the interview with Blandford and with other housing officials, it developed that no certain method is used to determine the number of Negro migrants who need housing. The statement was made that the basis of determining need was the estimate of the War Manpower commission of the number of in-migrant workers a given community expects.

PLENTY OF ROOM FOR ERROR

Thus the War Manpower commission may and frequently does, take employers' statements to the effect that they intend to bring in no Negro workers as the basis for assuming that there is no need for Negro housing, while the fact is that thousands of Negroes will pour into the area looking for work.

The fact remains, that despite clearly evidenced good will on the part of responsible housing officials toward the problems of Negro workers, they have thus far failed to deal adequately with thep roblem. And as trains from the South carry Negroes by the thousands to war industry centers in other sections of the country, it becomes certain that the present framework of policies and practices of the National Housing agency will fail to meet the war housing needs of Negro workers.

San Francisco May Test New Migrant Solution

SAN FRANCISCO (ANP)—San Francisco may develop into an outstanding example of technique in solving current race problems, Dr. Charles S. Johnson, noted sociologist, indicated in a review here recently. San Francisco has been one of the spots in the country where experts expected riots to flare up at any time, the rapid expansion of Negro population from 3,000 or 4,000 to 20,000 in little over a year, desperate housing facilities, inability of migrants from the deep south to adjust easily in this highly cosmopolitan city, all pointing to definite racial trouble. Dr. Johnson spent a month here surveying the situation. He brought two assistants with him and a local committee of 20 is cooperating.

"One of the reasons for hopefulness in San Francisco," said Dr. Johnson, "is that the concentration of Negro workers in this city is in its beginning. San Francisco therefore can start from scratch and a better solution may be arrived at than has been true in many large eastern, mid-western and southern cities."

Five problems are faced, Dr. Johnson pointed out. These are industrial occupations, housing, transportation, schooling and recreation for Negroes.

ATTEMPT A PATTERN

"We will attempt to arrive at a pattern for incorporation of minority groups in the framework of city planning," said Dr. Johnson. "We hope to relax the fears and concerns of the older residents who are likely to be disturbed and to offset the prejudice of southern whites who come into this territory. San Francisco, with the proper approach, can profit by the mistakes of other communities and take advantage of the values which minority groups can give a community.

"No definite program will be presented until the survey has been completed," Dr. Johnson said. "The Negro recognizes his problem—that he has high visibility, that he is met with greater resistance than other minority groups. He comes here with different customs, a strange and different level of culture to be both resented and resisted and must work out his problem for himself. We are attempting to [illegible] indications are that we have been given healthy consideration by San Francisco."

35f-1943

How to Get Out of Dixie

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland
SEP 4 1943

Many New Jobs in Washington Open to Southern Migrants; AFRO Outlines Methods of Getting Federal Permits to Come North

By MABEL ALSTON

WASHINGTON

"As a result of the recent application of a nation-wide employment stabilization plan, the migration of additional workers into the District of Columbia has virtually ceased," Victor Daly, of the U.S. Employment Service, said this week.

Mr. Daly explained that many USES offices, located in the home towns of these would-be migrants are refusing to give them statements of availability on the ground that there is essential work available for them in their home areas.

The only other alternative a migrant has is to come here and stay for sixty days without work. At the end of this time he can get work anywhere when he proves he has been unemployed here for the past two months.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: These migrants could also work as domestics for 60 days because no statement of availability is needed to do domestic work.)

New Jobs for Youths

Mr. Daly, who is chief of the colored professional, clerical and service section of the USES said that many new jobs are now open to colored boys and girls including those as messengers with Western Union and Postal Telegraph at $22 per week.

The government service has lowered its age limits to 16 years for assistant messengers and junior clerks.

Upgrading Helps

A number of the new jobs that are open for colored workers have come about through the upgrading of employees. When the Telephone Company opened its uptown office at Fourteenth and U Streets, it advanced a number of its colored employees to jobs as clerks.

Numerous smaller retail stores in the downtown areas are using colored men and women as stock clerks and salespersons as a result of upgrading. These jobs pay $22 to $27 per week, where the former maids and porters earned $16 to $20 weekly.

Women in Navy Yard

The Washington Navy Yard has employed a large number of colored women as ordnance workers at $4.56 a day.

Other jobs held by women and the rate of pay in the District follow:

Elevator operator, $18.96 a week; bus girls in restaurants, $18.20 with meals and tips; dishwashers, $21.00 a week including meals; domestic workers, $3.50 a day including lunch and carfare; or $12-$15 a week with meals and carfare.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Meals are valued at 30 cents each day by the D.C. Unemployment Compensation Board.)

Men working as porters and messengers who can drive a car receive $25 to $30 a week.

Airplane engineering mechanics, auto mechanics, electrical trades, machine shop and agriculture can be had at Phelps Vocational School from 7 to 11 p.m. five days a week.

Any employer who gives the immigrant a job without proper credentials is liable to a fine of $1,000 and a year imprisonment.

DENIES PLAN TO EXCLUDE NEGROES

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Attorney General Gives Views on Migration of Workers To War Centers

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19—Reacting to sharp criticism of Negro leaders and liberal white newspapers against allegations that he had urged President Roosevelt to limit Negro migration to [illegible] Northern war production [illegible] Attorney General Francis B. [illegible], last week while refusing to confirm or deny that he had made such a recommendation on the ground that suggestions made to the President are confidential, used the release of an exchange of letters between himself and Lester Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban league, as a device to make public his views on the question of excluding Negroes from overcrowded areas.

BLAME HOUSING AS RIOT CAUSE

Declaring that "those who have made an objective study of the Detroit riots and other racial or hoodlum clashes, are of the opinion that certainly one cause of the trouble springs from improper housing and recreational facilities for Negroes as well as for whites, particularly in the over-congested production centers, "Biddle stated: "It seems to me advisable, therefore, that responsible officials should give careful consideration to the extent of required facilities before taking any steps to fill the particular manpower requirements.

"I do not think that any effort should be made," he continued, "to prevent the free movement of individuals from one place to another, whether Negro or white, except as war requirements for manpower must be met."

NO PLAN TO BAR MIGRATION

The Granger letter to the Attorney General, calling attention to his reported recommendations to the President in the New York Post, quoted from a letter Granger had written the newspaper on the matter as follows:

"Mr. Biddle is properly concerned about the problems involved in the adjustment of Negroes in expanding war communities which are physically or psychologically unprepared for an increased Negro population. His concern is directed in an ill-advised fashion when he speaks of solving this problem by controlling Negro migration. In the first place it would probably be unconstitutional and certainly injudicious for the Government to use any of its machinery to differentiate on a racial basis between groups of migrant workers. In the [illegible] he seems to assume that [illegible] is contemplated for white Southerners to migrate and bring their social problems with them, but not for Negro war workers."

In this connection Biddle stated in his letter of reply: "In conclusion I would like to emphasize the fact that I know of no present plan to prohibit migration either private or governmental either white or Negro—that is now being considered."

Biddle's Plan Real Threat to Freedom

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
AUG 21 1943

Attorney General's Anti-Migration Memorandum and National Service Bill Condemned

By FRANK MARSHALL DAVIS
(FOR ANP)

Colored Americans face the greatest threat to their freedom since emancipation if Atty. Gen. Francis Biddle has his way and if the Austin Wadsworth national service bill is passed when congress meets again on September 14.

In a memorandum, the attorney general reported on the Detroit riots and recommended limiting or putting an end to colored migration "into communities which cannot absorb them, either on account of their physical limitations or cultural backgrounds."

The White House, realizing the dynamite in this thoroughly fascist proposal, has categorically denied ever receiving such a communication, but for the record and to refresh short memories, Biddle's letter, signed by him, was addressed to President Roosevelt and is dated July 15.

The national service bill, sponsored by Sen. Austin (Rep. Vt.) and Rep. Wadsworth (Rep., N.Y.) would authorize Mr. Roosevelt to prescribe regulations under which every man between 18 and 65 and every woman between 18 and 50 could be assigned to war jobs through the draft system.

Both the AFL and the CIO are bitter opponents, and many White House advisers are against this bill, calling it a form of slavery and pointing out that it would force persons against their will to work for employers seeking private profit.

Turning Clock Back

It takes little imagination to see how the draft labor bill could be used against colored persons by unscrupulous and prejudiced aides who will have power particularly in southern regions. And if Mr. Roosevelt, while insisting publicly he has received no such anti-migration proposal from Biddle and deciding privately to follow this policy, uses this quietly in connection with the administration of the Austin-Wadsworth bill, the clock will turn backward for black America.

Suppose Sam Johnson, a $12-a-week drugstore porter in Mobtown, Miss., wanted to go to Detroit at the urging of friends to get a $60 weekly job in a war plant. Since Detroit is an area to which, the attorney general feels, further colored migration must be stopped, he would not be sold a ticket there.

At Mercy of Law

In fact, under the broad power of Biddle's suggestion, Mobtown officials would have the power to prevent any colored person from going anywhere, on the ground that the destination, no matter where, "could not absorb him." And any strange colored person entering Mobtown could be turned back or arrested for the same reason.

Obviously nobody is going to make a study of each of the thousands of communities in America and decide whether that area can "absorb" colored and then report to Washington, with copies of the official decision and rating going to all bus and rail stations and all local authorities throughout the nation.

The cost and time involved are too tremendous to contemplate. Any other method of determining would be left to local option, thus giving the sadists and colorphobists, both north and south, a field day.

Add that to the labor draft bill and you've really got something. With virtually every colored man and woman capable of working subject to the whims of local draft boards, it would be a simple matter for Detroit or Chicago or New York draft officials to decide that [illegible] before [illegible] Amos Black ought to be shipped [illegible] to Alabama to work on a farm [illegible] (as essential war industry), or for [illegible] some big plant that didn't want [illegible] colored in the first place to see [illegible] it that its area banned further col[illegible] ored migration and then brought [illegible] in white workers from all parts of [illegible] the country through the Austin-[illegible] Wadsworth measure.

Write Your Congressmen

This is not fanciful. This is [illegible] tell you plenty; his attempt to de[illegible]ically weaker Americans for want[illegible] a strike vote.

Contrary to Democracy

His proposed ban on colored migration, and Wil[illegible] gration, clearly contrary to the principles of American democracy, would penalize the numerical[illegible] committee can [illegible] As for Biddle, he has proven [illegible] Harry Bridges, the west coast labor leader who has been a friend to colored trade unionists; in a giant's job [illegible] thing that can be [illegible] made a his groundless contention in the ting lynching by Schneiderman case, and his anti-deral civil rights labor opinion which would permit dicting southern [illegible] unionists to call a strike vote.

About the best thing is that he made a midget in [illegible] said about him is that [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

ng full citizenship rights in northern communities where they have a fairly decent chance of getting them, while doing nothing at all to curb the free movement of white southerners who are determined to keep the colored man down and carry this fascist attitude with them whenever they migrate to more liberal areas.

Biddle, in this same communication, also advised the President against making a broadcast to discuss the tense race situation, suggesting that if he had anything to say, let it be done as a part of some regular radio talk on the domestic situation.

President Should Speak

It ought to be evident that a special talk devoted wholly to the race situation is at this time of vital importance, and that only strong words and a strong stand are going to avert future riots. The President is the one person to make it plain that the constitution makes no distinction as to color or ancestry, that all citizens have the same rights, and that our laws must apply to black and white equally.

A strong attorney general would see to it that any violation of federal statutes would be punishable to the full extent of the law and that during the present crisis, of all times, when the nation is supposedly fighting against oppression and for the four freedoms, there must be no distinctions based on race or creed or color.

But that strong attorney general is not Piddling Biddle.

KKK Threatens Mexican Toilers Who Pitch in to Save U. S. Crops

The Worker
New York, N. Y.
By ELLE[illegible]
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON.

HUNDREDS of Mexican workers are now in the fields of Washington State harvesting the crops that faced complete destruction because of a dwindling supply of farm labor.

Yet even as these good neighbors are laboring in the sun harvesting the vegetables and grain there are warning signals that grim plans are afoot to provoke an attack upon the Mexican workers, which would repeat the bloody casualties of Los Angeles, destroy the state's farm crops and breach the friendly relations existing with our good neighbor to the South.

The situation is particularly disturbing in view of the notorious activities of the Ku Klux Klan in the Whatcom County and Skagit Valley areas. Not only did the Imperial Wizard of the KKK once appear at a public hearing calling for ouster of a noted educator at Bellingham but the Klan mustered several thousand followers in a bizarre exhibition in an open field of the Skagit Valley a few years ago.

Governor [illegible], anti-Willkie Republican who did nothing to cooperate with the U. S. Government's program to avert loss of the crops and subsequent impoverishment of the farmers, is now doing nothing to protect the Mexican workers.

Over 500 Mexicans are now at Burlington in the Skagit Valley with others in scattered sections of the area. They are harvesting the vegetables, particularly the pea crop, upon which four canneries and freezing plants depend.

The Mexicans are heroes in sombreros to one distraught owner of a 250-acre hay farm in Whatcom County. Oscar Lee, who owns the farm, was waging a losing race with the rain in trying to rush the hay into the barn before disaster.

Workers from the nearby sawmills, shipyards and business offices responded to the appeal of the U. S. Employment Service at Bellingham to help save the hay crop.



Mexican Farm Workers

Local Workers Pitch In

After an 8-hour shift, the sawmill and shipyard workers were putting in another four hours pitching hay. The Junior Chamber of Commerce mobilized its members and even 31 members of the national guard turned out.

Despite the volunteer workers, they were losing the race. Oscar Lee, threatened with loss of his year's crop, appealed to the War Food Administration for aid. Had a request been filed prior to ripening of the crop, arrangements would have been made to have sufficient workers on hand. However, by special arrangement, 100 Mexican workers joined the volunteer harvest hands.

The volunteer workers who were wet with sweat nearly swooned when the Mexican workers pitched hay with their sweaters on—because it was so cool in the Northwest.

"Everyone was highly pleased with the work of the Mexicans and we wouldn't have saved that hay without them," said R. W. Stewart of the U. S. Employment Office in Bellingham. "They work at a steady gait and they get production."

Growers in Whatcom County are now trying belatedly to secure Mexican workers to harvest the potato crop beginning Sept. 1st. There are over 2,500 acres of potatoes in Whatcom County which furnishes seed for the famous potatoes in Kern County, Calif., according to R. W. Stewart. Failure to harvest the Whatcom County crop means loss of the California crop, he said.

Growers passed the hat last week and collected $520 from about 100 potato growers to help provide facilities at the Lynden Fair Grounds for housing the Mexican workers, if they can be secured.

A flagrant attempt to provoke violence appeared in the Feb. 6 issue of the Bellingham Labor News, which is completely dominated by interests outside labor. The paper [illegible] editorially attacking the Four Freedoms, applauding the war aims of the Hoover Republicans and has joined with the power monopoly in the state to try to block the public power program.

The attack on the Mexican people charged falsely that white people were unwilling to work with the Mexicans and even called for cutting the food supply served to the Mexican workers.

The story quoted unnamed "leaders of the Cannery Workers Union in Mt. Vernon."

First hand information in Mt. Vernon branded the story a plain fabrication of the [illegible]

Not One Complaint

James Frazier, business agent of the AFL Canery Workers, was high in his praise of the Mexican workers who, incidentally, receive the same wage rate as others in the area.

"The Mexicans are doing a wonderful job here and everyone now is pleased with them. We are canning lots of peas and freezing other food, thanks to the Mexicans," Frazier said.

Frazier said that prejudice had existed among the growers against the Mexicans and they had agreed only after it became a matter of saving their crops. However, the situation had changed after arrival of the Mexicans and not one complaint had been registered with him, Frazier said.

A. R. Traux of the U. S. Employment Service at Mt. Vernon said he had heard nothing but praise for the Mexican worker since their arrival. He bluntly declared that the entire pea crop would have been lost had the Mexicans not been available.

A burst of song greets you as you enter the Burlington camp. It sounds from the kitchen where the cooks have the happiest time of all. They are standing over a huge hot stove—where it's nice and warm.

In nearby tents are long tables set out to feed the harvest hands. A few Mexicans are eating a late lunch. They smile in friendly fashion.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Puerto Rica to Send Farm, War Workers

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Puerto Ricans for work on farms and in war industries may be brought into the United States beginning the end of this month, Gov. Rexford Tugwell announced, Monday.

Gov. Tugwell, who is here meeting with the President's committee to recommend revisions in Puerto Rica's Organic Act, said the War Manpower commission in Puerto Rica is registering workers and will seek to obtain transportation for the men.

357-1943

Mr. Biddle's Confidential Letter to the White House

A month ago Attorney General Francis E. Biddle wrote a confidential letter to the President on the Detroit race riot.

Almost immediately there was a leak and the AFRO made public Mr. Biddle's hint to set up an interdepartmental committee consisting of representatives of the Attorney General's office, Fair Employment Practice Committee, Army, Navy, National Housing Administration, Office of War Information, War Manpower Commission, War Labor Board and Committee for Congested Production Areas of the Office of Emergency Management.

This super-government body was to deal with race relations and determine policies.

The immediate howl was tremendous. It centered around the fact that Mr. Biddle proposed a race relations body without colored representation.

Last week the rest of the letter seeped through and was published first in the New York Post. It contained recommendations, most of them sound, and one that was unreasonable.

To prevent and control riots, Mr. Biddle suggested to the President that:

1. Plans be made to expedite sending troops when riots first break out;
2. Draft officials defer police in congested areas where war plants are located;
3. A national committee be formed to make a study of the whole situation and do an extended educational and publicity job;
4. The Government consider a program for more housing and better recreational facilities in war areas.

All of these ventures are excellent and ought to find an early Presidential approval.

Mr. Biddle's surmise that it would be unwise for President Roosevelt to go on the air and discuss the interracial problem, we think is a mistake. The White House might as well take the leadership in this matter. Everybody else is discussing it. If the President has time to discuss post-war problems of pensions and benefits to soldiers, which is a political question, he might counsel with the nation on the prevention of riots, which is a pressing national problem hampering the ware effort.

Worst suggestion of all is Mr. Biddle's recommendation that the President find a way to limit, and in some instances to end, migration of colored people into communities which cannot absorb them on account of overcrowding or race prejudice.

Mr. Biddle is regarded as a liberal. He is a member of a well-known Philadelphia family, attended Groton and Harvard, as did President Roosevelt, and accepted a place on the board of directors of the NAACP.

For these reasons he has often been assigned to confer with colored delegations which the President is too busy to see.

The clamor against his proposition for a lily-white race relations board was nothing like the outcry that greeted his fantastic plan to use Federal agencies to prevent free movement of colored people within the United States.

Somewhat surprised and chastened by the furore created by his un-Attorney-General-like letter, Mr. Biddle fell back upon three evasions:

1. His letter was confidential to the President;
2. Neither colored nor white migrants in large numbers should be permitted to flock into war congested areas above the Mason and Dixon's Line;
3. He knows of no present plan that is now being considered to bar migration of colored or white workers.

That no plan is being considered may mean that the President hasn't gotten around to his letter or has disapproved of it.

Two important considerations may stem from Mr. Biddle's inept letter to the President:

1. Mr. Biddle's whole record of prosecutions of mobs, peonage, civilians accused of crimes against colored soldiers, especially in the South, will be re-examined with great care.
2. National organizations like the Fraternal Council of Churches, the Fraternal Societies, the NAACP and the Urban League will find it imperative to organize their efforts to stimulate and to supervise the migration of colored workers from the South.

The Biddle letter is a challenge to colored and white civil rights associations that cannot be ignored.

AUG 21 1943

AUG 21 1943

The South African Way

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

Attorney General Biddle's recommendation to the White House that the federal government limit—and possibly prohibit, in some cases—the further migration of Negroes to congested war production centers, is not just a straw in the wind—it is a whole haystack in a hurricane.

AUG 21 1943

It is reported that the "liberal" Attorney General's recommendation is based on studies made by the civil liberties (!!) division of the Department of Justice into continued unrest, tension and clashes in centers to which millions of Americans, colored and white, have flocked at the behest of the Federal Government in its effort to speed war production.

It is said that Biddle has urged the President to stop entirely the movement of Negroes into Detroit, and suggested that the War Manpower Commission be used to assist in this effort.

It is not at all unlikely that the same policy will be applied to other cities like St. Louis, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Los Angeles, Chicago, Mobile and Beaumont.

AUG 21 1943

In other words, the federal government is about to do what Southern white employers unsuccessfully sought to do during the last World War: i. e., prevent colored Americans from leaving the farms and small towns of the South for the better jobs, better pay, better voting privileges, better housing, and better cultural and recreational facilities of the North.

This will undoubtedly make the Administration popular again with the Southern white bourgeoisie by "freezing" the underpaid peons and domestics to their jobs in the American Congo, and also please Northern municipal authorities and employers by "freezing" the Negro ghetto conditions and widespread job discrimination, thus freeing the powers-that-be from the "embarrassment" of practicing what they preach.

This is federal adoption of the hated South African way of dealing with the color problem, and undoubtedly marks a step backward, or maybe a giant's stride backward.

In South Africa, the Negroes live in "locations" or ghettos on the outskirts of town or in the suburbs in which they are compelled to remain at night, unless they have a pass.

Fundamentally this is the same thing as the U. S. housing policy of erecting and maintaining jim-crow housing projects.

In South Africa the movement of Negro labor is carefully controlled and workers cannot change jobs at will without white people's permission.

This is substantially the same thing the War Manpower Commission will do in the case of Negro labor here, if Biddle's suggestions are accepted—and the WMC already has the power to do it.

That such a policy will be racially discriminatory goes without saying because neither Mr. Biddle nor anyone else has even dreamed of preventing any further migration of white Americans to war production centers.

It means that the big wages, the industrial training and the superior social, educational and cultural advantages of the large urban centers will be "for whites only"—with the exception of those Negroes who have already reached the Promised Land, while the bulk of Negroes will be "frozen" to their jobs in the South.

Apologists for American jim crowism have long contended that the difference between racial policies of Nazi Germany and the United States was that Germany incorporated them into national law while democratic America permitted each state to handle the problem as it saw fit.

But the Department of Justice and the War Manpower Commission are not State agencies, and yet they seem on the point of handling the problem that has arisen in the Nazi and South African way.

Perhaps some of the Administration's theoreticians, doubt that the dark peoples in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean will be able to persuade us that this is actually an extension of the democratic principle, but we difference between Attorney General Biddle's recommendation and the well-known South African way.

Every individual and organization opposed to the Attorney General's recommendation should write to President Roosevelt at The White House TODAY, urging their

A flood of letters and telegrams TODAY may stop a flood of tears TOMORROW!

AUG 21 1943

'Joker' In Statute Forces 600

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia 25 1943

Jamaicans Out Of Canneries

Farm Bloc Proviso Creating Dire Shortage in Processing of Food

PHILADELPHIA—(A N P) — A "joker" slipped in the 1943 federal law by the farm bloc which forbids use of imported agricultural workers in canneries forced 600 Jamaicans to suddenly quit work in six of the countries leading plants.

The army, navy, and lend-lease were all depeding upon these canneries to supply their field rations and processed foods. The plants include Campbell Soup Co., Camden; H. J. Heinz Co., Salnem; Edgar Huff Co., Swedesboro; Deerfield Packing Corp., at Seabrook Farms, and P. J. Ritter Co., and E. Pritchard, Ind., Bridgeton.

Loss of Jamaican labor made the already labor shortage worse.

The extension service, through its county agents, had assigned Jamaicans to canneries in open disregard of the "joker." County agents contended, with assent from farmers, that field and cannery workers were interchangable and that cannery work was in a broad sense agricultural production since corps couldn't be picked if canneries couldn't process them.

The Jamaicans were taken away from their work last week when the New Jersey Extension officials complained to the WFA that these workers were working in canneries. WFA said presence of these workers in canneries represented a "surplus" of farm labor which should, by law, be assigned to farms that were short of labor, as many South Jersey farms are.

Instead of being distributed through that area, approximately 200 of the Jamaicans were sent to northwest New York.

Said one official concerning the Jamaicans, "They are ideal workers. We were able to use them in specialized work and had a chance to train them. Now we can't replace them."

Daily World Atlanta, Ga

PLAIN TALK

THE PUBLISHED REPORT of Attorney General Biddle to the President in which he suggests the establishment of controls to inhibit the free movement of colored citizens in order to prevent racial conflict such as occurred in Detroit came as a shock to those who believe in the democratic process. But it is not inconsistent with the general policy of race adjustment which the federal government has followed.

This pattern is clearly evident in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Corps, and all other departments of the national government, where as a rule the problem of racial antipathy is met by segregation on the one hand or exclusion where segregation is not feasible on the other. It is the mechanism of escape which serves to avoid the possibility of racial disturbance, by appeasement of those who would deny the colored citizen his right to freedom from fear, freedom from want and freedom of speech.

And in this respect it has failed as conspicuously as the attempted appeasement of the Fascist and Nazi dictators failed in Europe. The same result will follow the adoption of Attorney General Biddle alleged suggestion, ignominious failure, and the creature of greater resentment and the stimulation of greater antipathies.

EXAMINATION NEEDED

It would appear important to examine thoroughly a policy which has served to create in the normally placed Negro population a depth of bitterness which has no parallel in the history of the Negro in America. This deep-seated resentment contrary to widely accepted opinion is not due to Negro agitators nor is it due primarily to incitement by the Negro press. It is the natural reaction of the Negro confronted by severe limitations based on color and race, the while the nation of which he is a citizen proclaims the virtues of democracy and calls upon him in common with other citizens to defend it with his life.

The contrast between the professions of his government and its actual practice, insofar as he is concerned has burned deeply into his soul more sensitive to the meaning of Democracy now than ever before. It could not be otherwise when every waking hour of his life he is called upon to make some sacrifice for the nation in which he is a second class citizen.

MUST FACE THE ISSUE

There must come a time when our government must face the issue as to whether the Negro shall be treated as a citizen in all which that implies or whether he shall be treated as a pariah. In fairness to the Negro, yes in fairness to the nation itself the policy of evasion, of temporizing, of appeasement must be abandoned and contsructive steps must be taken to carry out the constitution guarantees which were designed to secure all citizens in their right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

In Cary McWilliams' challenging book, "Brothers Under The Skin" there is a proposal for a sound approach to the problem of race in America. Among other things Mr. McWilliams has recommended a program which calls for a new constitutional convention to restate and strengthen the safeguards of civil and economic liberty in this charter of the American Democracy. That there is need for such a reaffirmation of the principles of our government few who have any knowledge of the racial situation in America will deny.

The oft repeated argument that without general public approval laws involving civil and social rights are useless in that they are generally unenforceable is fallacious. The fact that there is a Fourteenth and a Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution even though they are often disregarded, has served to prevent even greater and more widespread violations of the Negroes citizenship rights.

PEOPLE NOT OPPOSED

However, even if this were true, there is no valid reason to believe that the majority of the American people are fundamentally or seriously opposed to the extension of complete democratic rights to the Negro. Not even in the South is the racial problem as hopeless as it seems. What America lacks is courageous and farsighted leadership. But, time and the inexorable laws of progress are making it more and more difficult to live in a world where status is conditioned by race and color alone.

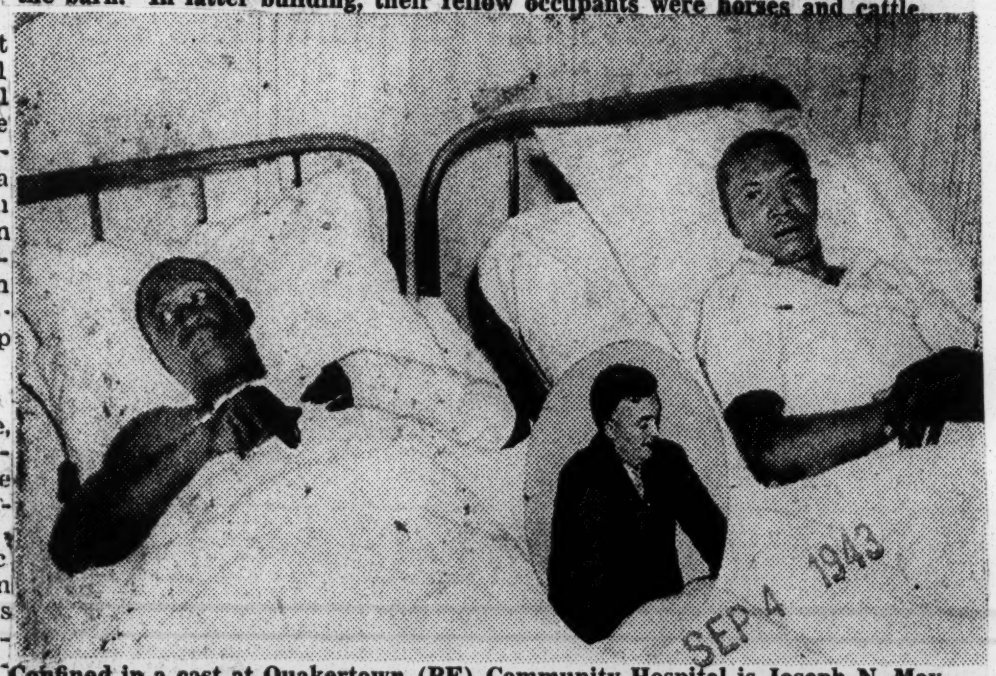
After all the arch proponent of this savage concept now foresees his inevitable doom as the shadows of the Kremlin lenghten and the legions of Red Russia remorselessly press toward the West. A free world is in the making. The problem of race in America therefore concerns more than the Negro. It concerns America's right to share in the creation of a new and better world.

Coroner's Jury Charges Pa. Farmer as Two Burn to Death

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.



Some of the workers on the Mastin farm are shown as they waited to testify at inquest for two workers burned to death in fire that destroyed barn in which they lived. On extreme right in first row is Prentiss Thomas, NAACP attorney, who attended inquest. Workers said they were brought to Pennsylvania from Maryland by Mastin to pick tomatoes, lived in chicken coops and the barn. In latter building, their fellow occupants were horses and cattle.



Confined in a cast at Quakertown (PE) Community Hospital is Joseph N. May, 23, left, whose back was broken when he leaped from a third floor window of a burning bar on Edward Mastin farm. His wife, Odell, 19, became panic-stricken, was burned to death. They had been married 18 months, are from Georgia. Another who escaped through the third story window was Eubie Lewis, 37, right, who suffered a broken leg. Insert Mastin, white owner of the farm who has been held by the grand jury.

35f-1943

Attorney General Biddle Explains

Daily World Atlanta, Georgia

Attorney General Francis Biddle muddied the water last week. He, according to press dispatches, recommended to the President a ban on Negro migration from the South to northern industrial centers. This created a storm of discussion among white liberals, as well as Negroes.

In a follow up release, Mr. Biddle repudiated the charges stating that "I do not think that any effort should be made to prevent the free movement of individuals from one place to another, whether Negro or white, except as war requirements for man-power must be met."

This latter interpretation comports more nearly with Mr. Biddle's past attitude and performance in respect to the citizenship rights of Negroes. He has manifested a more wholesome regard for the civil rights of Negro people than perhaps any other similar government official. He has shown a determination to put teeth in our laws and give meaning to our constitution. Thus, his denial of the charges attributed to him gives us a reassurance which we should like to continue to cherish.

Negroes in the South can well appreciate the dangers inherent in such a recommendation. It, like the Austin-Wadsworth bill, would serve the selfish ends of designing employers. It would place in the hands of unscrupulous law-enforcing officials a club with which to proscribe where Negroes shall work. It would intensify the southern Negro problem, whose speedy solution many sociologists contend, can come at the rate and to the extent that they migrate to other centers.

Then on the other hand, we must keep fresh in our minds that migrants take along with them the mores and customs of their environment. This applies with equal force to white and Negro migrants alike. That such migrants create both a physical and a psychological problem in their new environment, cannot be denied. But that is the challenge to white and Negro leadership. It is an equal challenge to the local and national governments to make ample housing and recreational provisions for these newcomers. They are badly needed defense workers and as such, they should be provided for.

Social and uplift organizations may render an effective service in this respect. In fact, the entire problem can be solved if approached with reason.

Migrant Tomato Pickers Live in Pa. Chicken Coops

Guardian
Boston, Mass.

Imported From Florida Two Die When Barn Burns

QUAKERTOWN, PA. — The state will seek the conviction of Edward O. Mastin for the deaths of Willie Cooper and Mrs. Odell May, colored migrant workers burned to death here August 17 in a barn on the Mastin farm. The case probably will be tried early in October.

A personal investigation by John Grantham, president of the Lehigh Valley NAACP Branch, revealed that the victims were two of fifty workers brought from Florida by a white contractor to gather the tomato crop on the Mastin farm. Tomatoes picked by these workers are sold to the government through the Campbell Soup Company.

Most of the workers are housed in chicken coops; the largest being about 7 feet square and only 5 feet in height. Grantham said in his report "workers along with their children are living in these small chicken coops—as these little coops, even if they were fumigated in, are too small for a couple to live in comfortably—but the most horrible thing of all is that nearly every worker has a large family and he and his family live in these small houses . . .

This condition is worse than slavery could have been." Unable to take pictures of the housing, Grantham submitted to the NAACP national office a free-hand sketch of the chicken coops.

Though dissatisfied with the conditions the workers said that they have not been able to earn enough money for railroad fares.

The deceased persons were living in a barn and were burned to death at mid-day when they were trapped by a fire on the third floor. There was only one exit. One of the workers suffered a broken back when he leaped from a window; another was severely burned.

At the coroner's hearing on Aug 27, the coroner's jury held Mastin responsible for the death of the two workers. Prentice Thomas, member of the NAACP national legal staff, attended the hearings.

Evidence presented showed that several families lived in the barn. Some of the persons had oil stoves on which they cooked. The barn was filled with hay and other inflammable material. There were no fire escapes; the only exit being one door and the windows.

District Attorney Edward Blister, Doylestown, Pa., said that in order for the state to make its case it would be necessary for Claude Jackson, one of the workers who last saw the deceased persons alive to appear as a witness. Jackson has agreed to remain in the state.

August 27 had held Mastin responsible for the deaths of Mrs. May and Cooper who were trapped in a noon doy fire in a crowded barn that provided living quarters for several families on the farm. There was only one exit.

An investigation of the case by John Granthan, President of the Lehigh valley NAACP Branch disclosed that the workers on the Mastin farm lived almost in a state of peonage.

Although dissatisfied with the living conditions, the workers claimed that they remained because they had been unable to earn enough money to live.

Most of the workers were brought here from Florida to gather tomatoes which are sold to the government through the Campbell Soup Company. The NAACP investigation revealed that the majority of the workers, with their families, were housed in tiny chicken coops, filthy, and unfit for human habitation.

Farmer Convicted In Workers' Death

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

QUAKERTOWN, Pa. — (SNS) — E. O. Mastin, tomato farm owner, here in whose barn two migrant workers were burned to death August 17 was convicted this week before a jury for involuntary manslaughter. An appeal will be heard some time during November.

Important among the witnesses in the death of the two workers, Willie Cooper and Mrs. Odell May were the impoverished farm-hands coroners jury at Quakertown

rida to harvest tomatoes. After the tomato season ended many of these people moved away in order to continue to make a living, NAACP lawyers revealed this week.

Wouldn't Accept Working Condition Ordered On Farms

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

MIAMI, Fla.—(SNS)—When 800 or 900 Jamacian workers imported to help reap crops in the U. S farm labor shortage refused to sign the "Jim crow agreement foisted upon them by representatives of their own and the United Staes government, all of them were turned over by the Labor Department, it was learned here, and taken to the Immigration and Naturalization offices, where they were later transferred to common jails of Miami, Tampa and to the State Penitentiary at Raiford, Florida.

This indignity was enforced on the workers some two weeks ago when they refused to accept the working conditions laid down by the Southerners who wanted their sugar cane cut harvested by all means, yet wanted to scare the workers into working and subject them to the vile tactics usually practiced in the South on Negroes

JAILED AS CRIMINALS

At first, accommodations for these workers had been arranged by the big sugar companies which had contracted for their services. They were to be taken care of on the plantations but when they refused to work, the government tried nothing in the matter of caring for them until boat was available to send them back home. Instead, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Labor and the Immigration and non criminals, holding them, it is said incommunicado as though they were guilty of some henious crimes.

Released after two weeks of incarceration the Jamacians were vehement in protest of then treatmen and promised that they would tell the general public of the conditions under which they were kept.

No word of their confinement was permitted to escape to the general public, the Department of State joining in the clique to keep the matter hushed.

AWAITING IN JAIL

All but forty or fifty had been sent home at the latest report, but they were still detained in the filthy Florida jails reserved for criminals. They are awaiting the next boat.

An official release from the Department of Agriculture says: "The WFA issued a statement outlining the situation in Florida where approximately 600 Jamicans who recently were transported to Florida by the Office of Labor of the WFA for work in the sugar cane fields pending arrival of a boat to return them to Jamica, were turned over to the custody of the U. S. Immigration and Naturalist on Service when they declined to accept the employment offered. . . . . A boat was not immediately available to take them to Jamacia. The only resource which the Office of Labor had was to turn them over to the custody of the immigration authorities. No adequate housing could be found for this large group, so they were lodged in the county jails at Miami and Tampa and in the Florida State penitentiary at Raiford. They are being held at these places only until a boat can be obtained for their return home.

No release on the matter was made because of certain other departments that refused to accept the jimcrow terms outlined for them. were

EN ROUTE NORTH All Say That They Are Moving Because of Higher Pay

RICHMOND, Va. — The population in 1940 was 61,251, and the highest estimate for the present is 62,500. The war, of course, has resulted in population movement, but much of the moving has been that of men.

War plants in North Carolina and and in Tidewater Virginia siphon busses are packed here at night, but Richmond is not a late and off most of the workers to the boom town.

Afro-American Checks Busses and Trains in Vain to Find Migrants

Baltimore, Md.

Coming North, Workers Pass by Richmond

SIX ARE LOCATED

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

None Stop Here

An AFRO check on all bus and railroad stations twice weekly over a period of a month failed to uncover one migrant who planned to stop in Richmond.

Six who were seeking their fortunes to the North were found. Three of them were women, with one headed for Washington, one for Philadelphia and the other for New York, where domestics are paid 25 to 75 per cent more than they are here.

Georgian Going to N.Y.

One of the women, Mrs. Josie Smith, who said that she lived on a farm near Augusta, was bound for New York. She said that [illegible] mother was dead, and two brothers had entered military service.

She had not worked before except to help on the farm.

The other two women would not give information about themselves.

One of the men also refused to do more than admit that he was bound for Baltimore.

Seek Better Jobs

Willie Horton, who said that he had done kitchen work in restaurants in South Carolina, and more recently in Durham, N.C., stated that he was going to Washington in the hope of holding down a job as second or third cook.

With a fourth-grade education he had earned only $10 to $14 weekly on past jobs.

The other, Fred Jackson of Miami, was a laborer who had worked at an ice cream plant.

He said that he earned $15 a week, and did not know what kind of job he would get, but had heard that "times are pretty good in Wilmington, Del."

Richmond Wages Low

All who would give any information said that they had read advertisements in local papers and were anxious to come north because pay was better.

The reasons for skirting Richmond are that the prevailing wage for laborers here is 50 cents an hour, and booming war plant centers elsewhere offer much more money to women and men.

Skilled and unskilled trade workers found prosperity in Tidewater Virginia more than a year ago.

Many [illegible]ford carpenters and bricklayers are still [illegible].

Workers have been unable to break the color line at the army hospital under construction here.

The principal influx of workers here is in the domestic field, and practically all of these are female.

Virginia offers more jobs in domestic service and in army post laundries and private establishments booming because of war trade.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

White Farmer Blamed after 2 Die in His Barn

Explosion of Oil Stove Said to Have Caused Blaze

OTHERS INJURED STILL IN HOSPITAL

30 Migrants Who Lived in Building Lose Clothes, $900

(Pictures on Page 11)

By LEON M. SNEAD

QUAKERTOWN, Pa.—A coroner's jury, Friday, held Edward O. Mastin, white, responsible for the death of two migrant workers on his farm who were fatally burned when fire destroyed the barn which they and twenty-eight others shared as living quarters with horses and cattle.

The verdict, a surprise to many spectators who crowded into the parlour-office of Justice of the Peace Horace L. Koder, was reached after an hour's deliberation by the jury and was preceded by two hours of closely examined testimony.

Coroner H. Clayton Moyer released Mastin on his own recognizance, but Edward Beister, Bucks County district attorney, said that the farm owner would be arraigned sometime this week and held in bail for the grand jury. Beister added, however, that the bond would probably not be high and he expected Mastin would be permitted to sign it himself with his property as security.

To Ask Manslaughter Charge

The district attorney said his office would seek indictments against the farm owner on charges of manslaughter and violation of the State law forbidding use of a building for both residence and storage.

(Mastin admitted, during his testimony, that about 1600 bushels of wheat and 1000 bales of hay had also been kept in the barn.)

Origin of the blaze on August 18, which cost the lives of Mrs. Odell May, 19, and Willie Cooper, 27, and caused injury to five other workers trapped on the third floor of the barn, remained a mystery.

Explosion Blamed

The trend of questioning at the inquest indicated officials leaned heavily towards the theory that one of the two-burner oil stoves used for cooking purposes by the farm hands exploded.

It was brought out during the inquest that thirty of the workers, transported from Salisbury, Md., by Mastin to pick tomatoes on his farm a mile from here, were housed in the barn, which was also used as a stable. About fifty more lived in small wooden chicken coops.

Three Exits

On the stand, Martin said there were "three exits, including the windows" from the third floor of the barn. He described the other two exits as the stairway leading to the ground floor and a ladder that was "supposed to have been" attached to the barn.

Asked whether he considered conditions safe for the workers, the owner, a transplanted North Carolinian, answered: "Well, considering the way they lived, yes. You know how they get around from place to place."

5 Escaped by Window

The five who were injured escaped from the blazing barn by leaping from the hall window. One of them, Clark Jackson, 22, said he was asleep at the time of the fire about noon. When he heard cries of fire, Jackson said, he ran into the hall, found the stairway a mass of flames and dived out of the window.

Jackson, who escaped with a minor arm injury, said that smoke and flames were licking up from the window and Mrs. May, who was crowded in the hall with the others, became panic-stricken and didn't jump.

The young woman's husband, Joseph N. May, 23; Eubie Lewis, 37, and Mrs. Nancy James, 39, leaped from the blazing window, the latter with her 3-year-old son, James Henry, in her arms.

3 in Hospital

The child escaped with only minor shock, but the others are confined to the Quakertown Community Hospital. May has a broken back, Lewis a broken leg, and Mrs. James sustained burns of the face and hands.

All of the belongings of the thirty workers went up in smoke with the barn. At least $900 in cash was lost it was estimated. Clothing was supplied by the Red Cross and neighbors.

Bodies of the dead workers were so badly charred that they could be identified only by the fact that they were missing.

Following the harvesting season, the workers had started out this year in Belgrade, Fla., picked beans in Salisbury, and then were brought to Quakertown in a truck by Mastin, they said. Most of them were born in Georgia or Florida.

Florida's 'Slaveocracy' Still at Work

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

(Special to the Daily Worker)

ORLANDO, Fla., Aug. 23.—Florida's arrest of Otis Nation, Citrus and Allied Workers Union leader, might appear a simple tangle over manpower regulations but look at it a little and you find a slavocracy still fighting the Civil War.

Nation was formally arrested on a charge of doing business as an emigrant agent without a license. What he actually did was to furnish the War Manpower Commission with the names of unemployed union members who might be referred to jobs in Camden, N. J., to break a labor shortage threatening to destroy a tomato crop.

A jury trial for Nation is scheduled for the week of Sept. 13. He is now at liberty under $2,000 bail.

While Attorney General Tom Watson is preparing the case against the union leader, 438 Negro workers who made the trip despite citrus growers' and shippers' threats are busily packing tomatoes in Camden, mostly for the army. They are to return here Oct. 1, expenses paid by the Campbell Co.

Newspaper treatment indicates the deep issues in the case.

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The Orlando Morning Sentinel makes the issues clear in a banner headline which reads: "Labor Short Area Today." The newspaper thus reveals that it regards any attempt



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home," while a white "labor racket-up" forced labor from contact with the Bahama farm laborers. "They know how to act—how to stay in their place. Why, they seem just like our own Southern boys."

While waiting for his truck to be loaded with [illegible] writers, the farmer stated:

Jamaicans Didn't Fit

"You know they sent us some Jamaicans, or something like that, a few weeks ago, and they did not fit in at all. They thought they were white.

"We would try to explain to them just how things worked, but that did not seem to do any good, so we had to get rid of them."

Officials at the camp stated that the Jamaicans were shipped to New Jersey.

Bahama Farm Laborers Stay in Their Place

Md. Farmer Says He Doesn't Like the Strong Jamaicans

SALISBURY, Md.—"We like these boys," Jasper Hollins, white farmer, stated when asked about

WHITE SUPREMACY

What prompts this newspaper's hysteria and the full-dress charges against Nation is clearly acute fear of "white supremacy" theories under the necessities of victory and with the growth of Negro unity.

The labor theft concept acquires special significance, too, when it is recalled that all the 438 now in Camden are Negroes. There was no "piracy" in the accepted sense used by the WMC since all were unemployed.

Any doubt that the **Morning Sentinel** still regards the Negro people as "property" which can be "stolen" disappears when a page one cartoon is examined.

This pictures a minstrel show type Negro holding a hoe, labeled "Labor," in order to maintain a consistent labor surplus, to keep wages down, and to "protect" a long-time farmer, stated when asked about

OTIS NATION

to direct idle manpower to war work that "are cracking under the strain." The labor theft concept acquires special significance, too, when it is recalled that all the 438 now in Camden are Negroes. There was no "piracy" in the accepted sense used by the WMC since all were unemployed.

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TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE
REEL 82

35f-1943

NAACP Raps Living Conditions on Farm Where 2 Died in Fire

Afro-American SEP 11 1943

Baltimore, Md.

"Never Seen Anything Like It," John Grantham; Workers Lived in Barn, Chicken Coops, Stable

ALLENTOWN, Pa. — Living conditions of the migrant workers on the Mastin farm near Quakertown were branded as deplorable this week by the Lehigh Valley NAACP which made an investigation after the fire which took two lives and caused injury to five others.

"I have never seen anything like it," said John Grantham, president of the branch. "The workers do not live as good as animals."

The eighty workers lived in the three-story barn that was destroyed and in small, poorly ventilated chicken coops. Most of them cooked their meals on an open fire near the barn, although a few had two-burner oil stoves inside their little shacks and in their rooms in the barn.

At the inquest in Quakertown, the farm owner, Edwrad O. Mastin, white, said he did not know that the workers cooked in the barn. He testified he had given orders for them to do all their cooking outside.

Committee Visits Farm

Grantham and a committee composed of Sampson Taylor, DeWitt Groves and Albert Robinson visited the farm shortly after the fire on August 18 and talked to both the workers and Mastin.

The report of their investigation led to Prentiss Thomas, NAACP lawyer from New York, being present at the inquest on Friday when Mastin was held responsible for the workers' death by a coroner's jury.

The attorney did not take part in the proceedings, but indicated the NAACP would participate in the trial of Mastin.

Four workers from the farm, who charged witnesses at the inquest had been handpicked by Mastin, came to Allentown Sunday with information that conflicted with that given the NAACP by the farm owner.

Mastin had told the committee that he had furnished the 80 workers with $200 worth of food. According to the four men, the figure was near $25 total for the 21 families.

SEP

They said Mastin had promised them ten cents a basket for tomatoes when he contacted them in Salisbury, but when they arrived in Quakertown three weeks ago, he told them he would give them only eight cents a basket.

One of the men said he lived on the basement floor of the barn, next to the stable where Mastin kept horses and cattle, with only a thin cardboard wall as a partition. When it rained, he said, water that leaked in the stable ran into the living quarters.

The men said that the group was brought from Bell Grade, Fla., to Elizabeth City, N.C., by a Buster Schiver to harvest white potatoes. From there, they said, they were brought to Salisbury by a Red McClennon to pick beans. Mastin, himself, drove them to Quakertown, they added.

After the inquest, Mastin would permit no pictures being made on his 100-acre farm which he has operated since 1921.

Negroes From Bahamas Save Tennessee Beans

Courier-Journal

SEP 6 1943

Louisville, Ky.

Mountain City, Tenn., Sept. 5 (AP)—Brightly dressed, rhumba-loving Negroes, natives of the Bahama Islands who speak with the broad accent of the typical Englishman, are helping this heavy bean producing section out of a serious labor pinch.

SEP 6 1943

The 425 Bahamians—many of the townsfolk hereabouts call them "Bohemians"—are residents of a nearby farm labor supply center set up by the Government to help out in the harvest of Johnson County's bean crop.

Former butlers, chauffeurs, chefs, ladies' maids, clerks and laborers, the Negroes were recruited in the Islands by employment services under the War Food Administration's office of labor, and contracted to work in the United States for one year. They entered the country at Miami where they were given passport numbers and checked for communicable diseases, and soon afterwards were sent here.

Termed Careful Workers.

A common ailment during their first few days here was the common cold, many of them complaining of the cool breezes—they called it the "drahf"—in these foothills of the Blue Ridge mountains.

SEP 6 1943

The Bahamians work from seven to ten hours a day and are considered by camp officials and local farmers alike as some of the best bean pickers ever to operate in this area. One farmer said they were meticulous in their work, picking only the best beans and taking especial care of the vines.

The Negroes are immaculate in their dress, favoring brilliant colors just as Southern Negroes but adding a few touches of their own in the choice of bright headdress and flowered shirts.

Camp Is Like Army's.

They are paid the prevailing rate of 40 cents a bushel for their picking. Their camp is similar to an Army cantonment. There they pay 25 cents for each of the two meals they are served daily and must provide their own clothes. The Government retains 25 cents out of each dollar, sending it to relatives or saving it to pay for the passage back to the island.

Saturday night, of course, is dance night for the pickers. Their favorite dance is the rhumba, performed to the accompaniment of their own orchestra made up of fellow workers.

SEP 8

From here, the workers will be moved around October 1, either to Virginia to pick apples or to Florida for more bean picking. One of the Negroes said he prayed every night he would be sent to Florida where "the sun shines like it does on the beautiful islands."

"MIGRATION BAN" SHOWS DIXIE LOSING WORKERS

PREDICT RACE GOING WEST, SOUTHERN SERVANTS DECLINE

Guardian

Boston, Mass.

By THE ROVER

As in the war of 1914-18, there is now a pell-mell rush of low-income colored people to get out of the South. Glowing reports of race workers making unbelievable incomes in the ship yards of the East, the mechanized war centers of the Midwest, and the airplane industries on the Pacific Coast have raised havoc with the "servant situation" in Dixie, and the "crackers" simply don't like it.

AUG 28 1943

Bans Wrong People

Regardless of who makes the long-anticipated recommendations to keep the southern colored citizen in his place (by imposing bans against migration to the north), the reason such measures are now being broached is crystal clear. It is all for the benefit of the South which has pretty well had its way in this war on nearly every national issue you can name. The North actually needs manpower to an extent where it could not sensibly ban any race whatsoever. What influence there is to bar colored people from war plants and war production areas has, from the beginning, stemmed from southern influences, regardless of all alleged "investigations", have been the cause of numerous "walk-outs", strikes and riots. If there is a need for bans against anybody, it should be directed against these "Klan" inspired individuals. They are the saboteurs of our War Effort and it only takes a few of them to bar 100 badly needed Colored workers. It is amazing that an Attorney General doesn't know these facts. The lowliest colored janitor is well aware of these conditions. Many would not be janitors if these conditions did not exist!

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Need Race Servants

While denials are being aired relative to the banning of Colored migration from the South, the Atlanta branch of the N.A.A.C.P. has already been requested by a Georgia mayor to return to the South has had to import natives of new freedoms else- ever return. These l known.

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Thus, if we study the situation from the viewpoint of a southern gentleman, colored workers should be frozen to their jobs in the South. For the South which can't get along with colored folks can't do without them either.

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May Gain Benefits

The dilemma of the South today is a tragedy to a proud people who cannot relish doing their own chores and menial tasks formerly and for hundreds of years, performed by faithful servants. The Big House amidst the magnolias must echo with the emptiness of departed sons and servants alike. And some of Dixie's colored cooks are now serving up chow for Uncle Sam.

True, the more elderly servants still with the stamp of bondage, may carry on for the master in the Big House on the hill. But it's the youth, that vast ever-reliable pool of servant reserves, that is going away joining the Navy, Airforce, Marines, Coast Guard, Merchant Marine, and in war work. Those who remain are bound to gain better conditions eventually. Intelligent white southerners are already reported working on som plan to better relations between colored and white citizens.

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Louis May Help

It is the tactics being employed not only to retard the migration but also to retard the progress of colored soldiers and civilians alike that keep the colored brother from breaking down in tears over the sad awakening of the South. The awakening has not progressed to any major stage of development as yet and cannot fully develop as long as the "Cracker Coalition" or race-baiting, uneducated element remains in power to rule the South. When we think of ganster regimes exploiting the "best people" of other nations, we must not overlook the many regimes that have disgraced the fair name of the South where even the white youth of today is seriously questioning the hate-vendors. Many of these southern boys may catch a glimpse—their first—of Champion Joe Louis who will soon tour the camps in the interest of better democracy. Between them, the young white and colored southerners (Joe's from Alabama) may eventually show the American "color problem" to be nothing more than a figment of the imagination. That's all it is.

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Florida Even Passed a Law To Keep These Workers Idle

CAMDEN, N. J.

THE SPECIAL train pulled into the hot Camden station on Sunday afternoon, and 434 brown faces peered anxiously out the windows. Men's forms leaned out as the baggage car door slid open. A score of people ran up the platform to greet the pasengers.

"Welcome, brothers—we're glad to have you here!" Ambler Bailey, Negro shop steward at Campbell's Soup, reached up to clasp the hand of one of the men standing in the baggage car. [illegible], food processing workers of Camden, were greeting Local 4, food processing workers of Orlando, Florida.

The Worker
New York, N. Y.

The Clew to the Orlando Case

Smiling faces gleamed everywhere, as the men, tired and hungry after 26 hours of riding in the croweded coaches, quietly walked off the train. To the workers and management of Campbell's, they were the heroes of the day—victors of the battle which raged for three days in Orlando and which left the KKK, county police and citrus growers empty handed and sullen.

They were war heroes, too. For they had come up from the South, where the summer months were workless for them, to help process the vital New Jersey tomato crop at the Campbell's Soup plant.

Red, white and blue union buttons gleamed on every chest as the men walked down to the platform. "United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America," the buttons read, "CIO." Back in Orlando, Local 4 had collected the dues of every man on the train. And not only for the two months they would be away, but right through to January 1, 1944. Here in Camden, every man stood shoulder to shoulder with his brothers of Local 80. The company and union had agreed—every Florida worker would be covered by the Local contract. The pay to start at 66½ per hour; time and a half for overtime; incr[illegible] at regular intervals; complete protection by the shop stewards of both locals. In addition, the company promised to provide adequate and sanitary sleeping quarters and the travelling fare for the workers.

Perhaps this was the clue which explains the ferocious rage which blew the lid off Orlando two days before the workers were scheduled to leave.

The company and the international union had worked out the plan to shift unemployed workers from Florida to where they were urgently needed, in Camden. When all the plans had been made, a wily County Attorney suddenly appeared with a new law, made to order for the Florida citrus growers and packers associations—the Emigrant Agent Law—which forbids any but a government agency to recruit workers for employment outside the State. The penalty for non-government recruiting, under the law, is a "fee" of $1,000 plus $500 for each county from which workers are recruited.

AUG 15

Orlando Makes A Law to Order

Neither the union or Campbell's backed down on their plans. Orlando papers carried inflamatory articles attacking the so-called "labor pirates." Spokesmen for the Ku Klux Klan personally threatened J. E. Heap, Jr., representative of the company. The police threw a cordon around the hotel where Ottis G. Nation, union organizer was staying.

But close to 500 men had no intention of being held back. They were signed up, union dues paid, clothes packed. They were determined to produce the food that was needed for victory.

The War Manpower Commission was called in by the company. As a government agency, it would be responsible for the recruiting. The union and the company would be in the clear. "The train is all ready to take you up North tomorrow," Nation told a mas meeting of a thousand union men, friends and police spies, on Friday night, July 30. "I urge you not to go—But of course, I'm only one against a thousand of you!"

Heap addresed the workers, explaining the terms of the working agreement and the plans that were made. The workers cheered for both speakers.

The next day, the air was tense in Orlando. Police were everywhere questioning and frisking every colored man with a suitcase. Neither the company representative nor union organizer approached the railroad station.

But 434 men boarded the train. Their leaders were with them—chief steward, Rev. W. B. Shanon, and 55 shop stewards—all determined to get to work. And with them, a white friend and guide through the dark South, a man named Francois de Lacqueseaux—The Chief—a merchant marine officer who was torpedoed five times in the past year, and a staunch union (NMU) man right down to his firmly planted feet. The special train left Orlando on schedule.

AUG 15

War Manpower Chiefs Greet the Workers

Officials of the War Manpower Commission, company and union escorted the workers down the street to the large modern cannery. On the third floor, the union steward stood at the door of the employes' cafeteria as the men filed in. Nostrils dilated with pleasure as the fragrance of baked ham, sliced to man's size, filled the air-conditioned cafeteria. The large glasses filled with thick tomato juice were evidence that the meal was "on the house."

After registering at the company employment office, the men were shown to their barracks, a spacious loft filled with army cots, accomodated with showers and other sanitary facilities.

The men are all working now. As the young Rev. Shannon says: "We're going to do a job!"

FLORIDA MIGRANT WORKERS DIE IN TOMATO FARM FIRE

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

QUAKERTOWN, Pa., Sept. 9—The state will seek the conviction of Edward O. Mastin for the deaths of Willie Cooper and Mrs. Odell May, migratory workers who were burned to death here August 17 in a barn on the Mastin farm on Route No. 2. It is expected that the case will be tried early in October.

A personal investigation by John Grantham, president of the Lehigh Valley NAACP branch, revealed that the victims were two of fifty migratory workers who were brought from Florida by a white contractor to gather in the tomato crop on the Mastin farm. Tomatoes picked by these workers are sold to the government through the Campbell Soup company.

Most of the workers are housed in chicken coops; the largest being about 7 feet square and only five feet in height. Grantham said in his report "workers along with their children are living in these small chicken coops—and these little coops, even if they were fit to live in, are too small for a couple to live in comfortably—but the most horrible thing of all is that nearly every worker has a large family, and he and his family live in these small houses . . . This condition is worse than slavery could ever have been." Unable to take pictures of the housing provided for workers, Grantham submitted to the NAACP national office a free-hand sketch of the chicken coops which he described as filthy and unfit for human habitation.

NO RAILROAD FARE

Though dissatisfied with the conditions under which they had been forced to live, the workers said that they had not been able to earn enough money for railroad fare.

The deceased persons were living in a barn and were burned to death at midday when they were trapped by a fire on the third floor. There was only one exit and one of the workers suffered a broken back when he attempted to leap from a window; another was severely burned.

At the coroner's hearing after the coroner's jury held Mastin responsible for the death of the two workers. Prentice Thomas, member of the NAACP national legal staff, attended the hearings.

Evidence presented at the hearing showed that several families lived in the barn. Some of the persons had oil stoves on which they cooked. The barn was filled with hay and other inflammable material. There were no fire escapes; the only exit being through the door and the windows.

District Attorney Edward Biester, Doylestown, Pa., said that in order for the state to make its case it would be necessary for Claude Jackson, one of the work-

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21 BAHAMANS REFUSE OHIO WORK; JAILED

Chicago, Ill.

Farmers From Islands Arrested In Dispute Over Housing

Defender

(Special to the Defender)

WARREN, Ohio—Twenty-one irate farmhands, imported from the Bahamas Isles by the government to relieve the farm-labor shortage, were lodged in the county jail here last week following their refusal to accept unsatisfactory housing facilities.

The men, brought to this area by the War Food Administration, to help work the Orwell Gardens, rebelled at the suggestion that they were to live in snake-infested quarters. When they told officials they did not intend to sleep in the building provided for them, police hauled them off to jail.

L. O. Bell, WFA agent, who brought the workers here from farms in Minnesota where they had harvested corn, was held responsible for the jailing of the men. He, it is said, told them to get back into the truck in which they had arrived and, when they did, he drove them off to jail.

Refused To Unpack

According to William Humphries president of the local branch of the NAACP, the Bahamian workers refused to unpack their bags when they discovered the type of quarters in which they were expected to live. He said they complained of having to kill several snakes before they could enter the place and, later, of looking through cracks in the floor of the building and seeing other reptiles crawling around on the ground.

Interviewing them at the county jail, Humphries said they told this story:

"We were first given farm labor in the South, in Florida, at the rate of fifty cents per hour. Some of us earned as high as $30 a week. We were then moved to Minnesota to gather corn by the ton, at which time we agreed to pool our earnings and draw one big pay, to be divided equally among us.

Paid $2.78 for 5 Days

"After five and a half days of hard work, we were paid by the farmers $2.78 each. That was the pay for each of 20 of us, the other boy getting only 76 cents for his five and a half days' work. Under the agreement we were to pay a dollar a day for room and board. So, the next week we refused to work under the old agreement.

"We agreed to gather corn at the rate of 50 cents per hour, with room and board one dollar per day. We worked from sun up to sun down for one week, the highest paid man among us getting $3.25 and we worked very hard. We were brought from Minnesota here to Bloomfield township to work the Orwell Gardens. There we refused to work due to the housing and sleeping conditions. We were shown an old run-down shack with poorly constructed bunks to sleep on, one above the other.

"We were told by the farmer that there was no form of covers. We killed six snakes in and around this shack. You could look through the floor of the shack and see snakes crawling around. Upon refusal to accept these conditions, we were brought to Warren and lodged in the county jail."

Many Jamaicans Desert Jobs On Eastern Farms

Defender

Chicago, Ill. 1943

By SAM LACY

(Defender Staff Correspondent)

(Third of a Series)

Although the six-month period for which they are contracted to work American farms under War Food Administration supervision still has three months to run, many Jamaican farmhands are deserting the areas to which they were originally assigned.

I was aware that under the contracts the Jamaicans are required to remain in the United States until the expiration of the specified time, but I had entertained no thought that they would seek "the next best step."

To them, "the next best step" was a transfer. Embittered by conditions at the Big Oak farm-center Bridgeton, N.J., 100 workers demanded that they be sent to another area. The result was that, on July 25, the day of my arrival at the camp, these men boarded a bus at the gate, bound for the middle-west.

Arguments Intelligent

Among them were several of extremely high intellect. They used intelligent arguments and spoke in such a way as to convince you that they had given much thought to their problems.

On the bus heading away from Big Oak were: Henry Lipsett, Wesley Clark, Edward Allen, Ainsley Freckleton, Ivanoe Newman, Francis Wint and Lindon Powell. I considered their reasoning well worth listening to, mainly because it did not reveal any type of persecution complex. They did not give the impression that they felt they had been mistreated. Nor did they imply that the U. S. owed them any more than it had granted others, primarily the right to work.

The feeling among these men was that if a prolonged draft had cut down production to such an extent that they couldn't supply the labor the WFA said it needed, then there was nothing to do but request a transfer elsewhere. Only under the closest questioning did they finally reveal that their change resulted from repeated protests against unsatisfactory conditions and delivery of what amounted to an ultimatum.

Canneries Supply Work

This departure cut the enrollment at Big Oak by 20 per cent. There is little doubt that matters would be far more serious at the Bridgeton center were it not for the presence of three large canning factories in the area.

These give periodic employment to many of the 400 Jamaicans still on the grounds. Even with them, however, the men have registered some dissatisfaction. The Deerfield company and the Ritters plant have experienced little trouble, but the Pritchard cannery suffered a partial work stoppage recently when Jamaican workers, who had been hired to augment the regular force, walked out in a wage protest.

The company management, I was told, had repeatedly promised to raise its wage scale to a level that would be agreeable to the workers. These promises, however, had never materialized and the walk-out was staged. For several days the men refused to accept assignment to the Pritchard plant.

Pembroke Maxwell, of Kingston, and John Mullings, of Christiana, were my informants. They stated that Deerfield pays the highest wages of the three, computing the time of the workers at 50 cents per hour. Ritters, at 47½ cents an hour, is next. The Pritchard company, at that time was paying 42 cents an hour to its workers. A nine cent hourly increase has been promised at this latter factory, and may or may not be in effect as this is written.

Government spokesmen, in a report submitted on one of the camps, admit some of the evils I found in existence at Big Oak and other farm-labor centers. At the Bridgeton camp and at others I visited on my recent 2,000-mile tour of investigation, I found general confusion among the workers. Complaints ranged from repulsion to unsavory food, bad housing and inadequate work to lack of hygiene facilities, insufficient medical provisions and danger of disease.

One government report says: . . . "A group of men were washing their clothes at the laundry, a porch-like shed with four laundry tubs. Hot and cold water was available in these tubs, as well as to serve the enclosed shower baths, located a few feet adjacent. None of these facilities by any stretch of the imagination could be called de luxe."

Continuing, the same report states, "To encourage true cleanliness there certainly should be more tubs and showers to adequately serve a camp population of 400 men or more."

One Shower Per 100 Men

At Big Oak I found four shower-bath heads, enough to provide one shower per hundred men. At some others, Burlington center for example, two showers supply bathing facilities for 400 men.

An overall picture of any one of the 11 camps I visited on my tour of inspection, can be summed up most accurately in words similar to those used by government spokesmen when they admit:

"The whole camp appears in fact like a government step-child, but a brave one, wearing courageously the second-hand, hand-me-downs of the more favored agencies of the congressional appropriation committees."

Although there have been relatively few cases of racial discrimination in the areas where these Jamaicans are located, they have not been entirely free of the indignities that are characteristic of American treatment to a man with a black face.

Race Problem Added

Just prior to leaving New Jersey to continue my trip down through Delaware and Maryland, I talked with Stanley Biggs, of Porus. Biggs went into an ice cream parlor in Burlington and attempted to make a purchase. Service was refused him and he demanded to know why.

Given no reason that would satisfy him, Biggs ran the two miles back to the center and reported the incident to H. E. Pendleton, white, the camp manager. The latter promised an investigation, but before work of any kind was begun the next day, a delegation of Jamaicans visited the office and made known their intention to tolerate no further injustices of this nature.

As I looked into the eyes of the men telling me about the incident, I inwardly prayed that there would be no further repetition of the affair. I could read a bitterness born of determination and could easily see that those men, who are not accustomed to insults on account of their race, now had still another complaint to add to their many against the life they are living in this country.

Like these Jamaicans, the farmhands imported from the Bahama Islands are dissatisfied with their jobs here. Follow the Defender down into Delaware and to the Maryland Eastern Shore in next week's edition.

Biddle's 'Stop Negro Migration' Edict Looms As New Threat To U.S. Labor

Courier.
Pittsburgh, Pa.

AUG 21 1943

By JOHN R. WILLIAMS, Staff Correspondent

DETROIT, Aug. 19—Are American war plants capitalizing on U. S. Attorney General Francis Biddle's recent admonition . . . "Stop Negro migration" . . . and using it as a device for the systematic exclusion of Negro job-seekers from war industries, despite the critical shortage today of American manpower? That is the disturbing question uppermost in the minds of organized labor, liberal American citizenship, and Negroes, in particular, following the refusal of jobs, in the various Ford plants in the Michigan area, to Negroes on a wide scale—even when they come with high qualifications, and although, because they are residents of this area, it would be less expensive to integrate their labor.

ADS DON'T MEAN NEGROES

The classified advertising columns are cluttered with daily want-ads in metropolitan newspapers—offering work of virtually every type for men and women. The grave manpower shortage in this area is the reason for these regular advertisements, but, when the ads are followed up, invariably the white applicants are hired and the colored turned away.

It may have been accidental, but Miss Esther Ball of 117 Dalewood road, Middlesboro, Ky., a colored school teacher, received a post-card urging her to report to the Willow Run bomber plant for work with the least possible delay. She was informed that her transportation would be paid by Ford Motor company and she would be paid 85 cents an hour while in training for work on aircraft parts. Miss Ball made the pilgrimage to the Michigan plant and applied for the training—only to be turned down when her racial identity was discovered.

EXCLUDE NEGROES SINCE RIOT

Last week, a Courier representative investigated whether Negroes are being systematically denied employment at Willow Run as a matter of reversed policy. A neatly appearing colored applicant, Mrs. I. Beanum, of 34055 Beverly road, Wayne, Mich., was rejected without consideration, as well as Harry Thompson, of 1622 Washington street, Gary, Ind., just before The Courier reporter received the desired hearing with the management.

Mr. Thompson is a graduate of the American aircraft institute in Chicago. He was turned down despite the fact that he brought along his transcript which revealed grades of 94 in layout, 93 in drilling, 92 in riveting, 93 in blueprint reading, 91 in shop practice, and 93 in bench assembly.

FLAGRANT CASE OF IRONY

But Mrs. Beanum and Mr. Thompson paid the penalty of being black and, to make the happening more ironical, just as they were rejected, Greyhound buses pulled in from Southern States, emptying cargoes of white applicants—few, if any, of whom had "priority" training or experience, but all of whom were immediately hired.

In a hearing with Employment Personnel Director E. D. Brown, The Courier was told that Negroes are not being hired since the Detroit riots. Asked for the responsibility for such a policy, Mr. Brown referred the newspaperman to Director of Personnel Harry Bennett at the Ford River Rouge plant. Later, the reporter, at headquarters of UAW-CIO Local 50, was told, "It seems to be the attitude of the Ford Motor company to make the bomber plant all white."

To date, it is reported that approximately 30,000 Southern white workers have been imported. There are still 700 or more Negroes at the Willow Run plant, but, from all indications, they are either being fired or are being encouraged to quit at an alarming rate, though all Southern white workers contacted seem willing enough to accept conditions at the plant as they find them and admit they would work with Negroes.

The picture is the same all over the area. It's the same story in Detroit, Ann Arbor, Wayne, River Rouge, Ypsilanti, and Inkster. Manpower is badly needed for its own sake, but this so-called "Arsenal of Democracy" is failing to utilize the thousands of Negroes available for relieving the acute shortage which could contribute a major blow in causing the Allies to lose the war.

Accuse Florida Of 'Slaveocracy' Labor Practices

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

AUG 21 1943

ORLANDO, Fla. — (ANP) — Florida's slaveocracy is still alive, said members of the Citrus and Allied Workers union, CIO, when they investigated the arrest of Otis Nation, leader of the union.

Nation was formally arrested on a charge of doing business as an migrant agent without a license when his activities actually consisted of his supplying the War Manpower commission with a list of names of unemployed union members who might be referred to jobs in Camden, N. J., to break a labor shortage threatening to destroy a tomato crop.

UNDER $2,000 BOND

Nation, who is slated to appear before a jury during the week of Sept. 13, is now at liberty under a $2,000 bond.

Reports say that 438 Negro workers who made the trip despite citrus growers' and shippers' treats are busily packing tomatoes in Camden, mostly for the army. They will return here Oct. 1, expenses paid by the Campbell Co. All of this is going on while Florida's Attorney Gen. Tom Watson goes on preparing a case against Nation.

An article appearing in the Orlando Morning Sentinel revealed that the newspaper regards any attempts to direct idle manpower to work out of the state as 'labor theft.' The labor theft concept is said to acquire special significance when it is recalled that all the 438 workers now in Camden are Negroes. All were previously unemployed.

USE CARTOON

A picture in the Sentinel depicts a minstrel show type Negro holding a hoe, labeled "that old steady job right here at home." The Daily Worker states that in contrast to this cartoon, is presented a "labor racketeer" holding a balloon full of "hot air" and a valise labelled "carpet bag tricks," and tells him: "Look Brother, we'll give you the whole world with a fence around it and you can sit on the fence."

It is explained that the most stirring reminder that the Nation case represents a move by a stubborn slaveocracy, is the cartoon's characterization of the door leading to Camden as "entrance to a north-bound train;' that under the came cartoon also appear pictures of the Negro in winter, broken by his Camden experiences, and forced to walk on railroad ties. The picture carries the title, "The Primrose Path and the Long Road Back."

The Citrus and Allied Workers union, which Nation heads, said to be affiliated with the CIO, and has gained 4,000 new members here since last December, won the first CIO contract in the state, and succeeded in getting raises and advancing the unity of Negro and white.

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WANT LABOR SURPLUS

The state of Florida said to be adhering to the method of restricting labor's flow to out-of-the state war jobs, in order to maintain a consistent labor surplus, to keep wages down, and to "protect" a long-time underpaid labor group from contact with more advanced and better paid workers elsewhere

The case is said to bring to the fore the anti-war, anti-administration prejudices of sections of th most reactionary groupings who are trying to use the Nation arrest to drive the WMC out of the state.

Farm Owner May Not Have To Answer Case

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

SEP 1 1943

QUAKERTOWN, Pa. — (SNS) — When the trial of E. O. Mastin, tomato farm owner, here in whose barn two migrant workers were burned to death August 17, begins next month, the tomato harvest will be over and most of the impoverished farmhands which he imported from Florida will have moved away in order to continue to make a living, NAACP lawyers said this week. With these gone chances for a conviction lessen.

At a coroner's hearing at Quaker-town on August 27 the coroner's jury held Mastin responsible for the deaths of Willis Cooper and Mrs. Odell May. Cooper and Mrs. May were trapped in a crowded several families lived on the Mastin farm. There was only one fire escapes and no exit.

An investigation of the case by

John Grantham, president of the Lehigh Valley NAACP Branch here had revealed that the workers on the Mastin farm live almost in the state of peonage.

Most of these workers, who were brought here from Florida to pick tomatoes which are sold to the government through the Campbell Soup Company, are housed with their families in tiny chicken coops, filthy and unfit for human habitation. Although dissatisfied with living conditions, the workers claim they have been able to earn enough money to leave the farm.

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F. D. Asked to Turn Down Biddle Plan to Bar Colored Migration

Baltimore, Md. 1943 AUG 21 Afro-American.

More Diabolical Than Rankin's Plans–Walter White; Violates U.S. Constitution. NAACP Tells President

NEW YORK—President Roosevelt was urged this week to "publicly repudiate" the suggestion of Attorney General Francis Biddle that the movement of colored persons to certain war production centers be limited or stopped as a means of curbing race riots.

After two stories had appeared in the New York Post based on "authoritative information," the newspaper PM on August 11 published the full text of the confidential memorandum from Attorney General Biddle to President Roosevelt, which was dated July 15.

Mr. Biddle said the report was based on findings of an FBI man sent to Detroit for this special job.

Proposal Called "Illegal"

The telegram to the President from the NAACP characterized the proposal as "obviously illegal, unsound and destructive of public confidence. Implications that the solution to the racial situation lies in imposing special restrictions on colored citizens merely aggravates tensions."

The memorandum suggested that colored persons be barred altogether from Detroit, saying: "It would seem pretty clear that no more colored persons should move into Detroit."

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Mr. Biddle also advised against the President going on the radio to discuss the racial situation, saying: "This, I think, would be unwise."

Termed Worse Than Rankin

In a later statement, Walter White, NAACP secretary said: "Not even Rankin (Rep. John Rankin of Mississippi) has made so diabolical a proposal.

"We are inexpressibly shocked that the chief law enforcement officer of the United States should propose so patent a violation of the Constitutional guarantee that 'no person shall be deprived of. . . liberty . . . without due process of law.'

"The movement of the individual within the confines of his own country is one of the fundamental privileges and rights of citizenship.

"The inequity and injustice of the proposal are appalling.

"Conceding the right of whites to migrate freely, the Attorney General would condemn colored persons to stay in the South, to work as now at the lowest paying jobs because they are denied, in most instances, skilled and semi-skilled employment even in war industries, and to put them still further at the mercy of plantation owners and other exploiters of colored labor.

"Equally distressing is the fact that a responsible member of the President's Cabinet should propose to the Chief Executive an evasion of the clear responsibility of the government to enforce the laws and to deal justly and equally with all citizens.

Aid to Discrimination

"In addition, the Attorney General's suggestion is an invitation to violation of both the spirit and the letter of the President's Executive Orders 8802 and 9346 prohibiting discrimination in war industries or by the government on account of race, creed, color, or national origin.

"Those employers who are reluctant to hire colored persons discover an unexpected ally when the Attorney General suggests that colored citizens not even be permitted to move into those centers where workers are needed. We condemn and oppose the Attorney General's suggestion."

Other Recommendations

Other proposals in the memorandum were:

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"That the War department and the Department of Justice work out a manual for local officials telling clearly the steps to be taken to call in Federal troops; that members of city police forces be deferred in the draft;

That an inter-departmental committee on race relations composed of representatives of government agencies be created; and that a private national committee, financed privately and not connected with the government, be set up to "do an extended educational and publicity job (on the race problem—Ed.) chiefly in the local communities."

Age-Herald

Birmingham, Ala.

OCT 10 1943

92 Homesick Jamaicans Await Immigrant Action

MIAMI, Fla. (AP)—Ninety-two homesick Jamaican Negroes were in jail here Saturday awaiting action by immigration authorities because they balked at working in Florida's sugar cane fields and said they wanted to go home.

They were among more than 300 sent to Florida from New York to work in sugar cane fields around Lake Okeechobee. Imported to the United States to assist with war food production, their first assignment was to Northern farms.

When they arrived at West Palm Beach Friday they were reluctant to transfer their luggage from a train to buses. Paul Van Der Schouw, area director for the War Food Administration, reported. At a camp near Lake Okeechobee they refused to leave the buses.

"We took them to our migratory labor camp at Canal Point," said Van Der Schouw. "There they refused to eat unless food was brought to their

A technical non-criminal charge of violating immigration laws was placed against the workers until federal officials learn how deeply their homesickness has penetrated.

Daily Worker

New York, N. Y.

The Old South

New York, N. Y.

Editor, Daily Worker:

Somebody ought to tell some people in Florida there's a war on. This little item seems to have slipped their minds. Otherwise, a CIO organizer for the Citrus and Allied Workers Union would not have been arrested for furnishing the War Manpower Commission with the names of unemployed union members who might be referred to jobs in Camden, N. J., to break a labor shortage threatening to destroy a tomato crop.

As the Daily Worker story points out, in this situation you find the finger of the Southern slavocracy who still regard the Negro people as their "property." They do not want workers moved out of the state so that there will be a surplus labor market to keep wages down.

Meantime, incredible as it seems, Otis Nation, the organizer, is going to be tried on Sept. 13, being now at liberty under $2,000 bail.

DOROTHY KEISKER.

AUG 14 1943

Plan To Import Puerto Ricans

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, D.C., Aug. 12—Plans for bringing Puerto Ricans to work on farms and in war industries in the continental United States are being worked out by Insular and Federal agencies in an effort to relieve the labor shortage here as well as the unemployment situation in Puerto Rico, Rexford G. Tugwell, governor of Puerto Rico reported last week to Secretary of Interior Harold L. Ickes. Governor Tugwell is in Washington attending the meeting of the President's Committee to recommend revisions in Puerto Rico's Organic Act.

The Insular government already has sent 256 industrial workers to the mainland and all have been placed in war industries, Governor Tugwell stated.

HOOSIERS MOB 25 JAMAICANS

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

MARTINSVILLE, Ind., Aug. 19 (ANP)—A violent mob objected to 25 Jamaicans being quartered in a building facing the courthouse, gathered in the public square last week and ran the frightened foreigners from the city, Sheriff Omar St. John said the Jamaicans brought here to help pick the apple crop had been relocated in an undisclosed center outside the city.

The disorderly crowd was estimated as numbering "one thousand or so." Martinsville has a population of approximately 5,000.

Sheriffs' deputies, city, and state police were called in to protect the workers until they could be removed from the hostile community.

PRESS PREXY SENGSTACKE Defender LASHES PLAN

Chicago, Ill.

Conference To Weld Race Unity Urged By Publishers

AUG 21 1943

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON. — Attorney General Francis Biddle stirred a veritable hornet's nest of nation-wide protest with his proposal to President Roosevelt to prohibit Negro migration to the North, it was evident this week.

With protests coming from every quarter, Biddle beat a hasty retreat denying in a letter to the National Urban League that he had asked for a ban on migration. However, the newspaper PM ran excerpts from Biddle's letter to Roosevelt which contradicted Biddle's claim. (See text of letter on Page 2.)

Heading the protesting groups was the Negro Newspaper Publishers Association. President John H. Sengstacke, general manager of the Chicago Defender, urged that "instead of national unity being strained further by such an unwise and impractical move, that the government immediately undertake to finance a sound program of housing commensurate with the needs now existing in large industrial centers where Negro workers have been called, like other Americans, to work in war plants."

AUG 21 1943

Asks Parley

Sengstacke recommended that the unfortunate wave of rumors, charges, and counter charges which create tension be brought to an immediate end. He suggested that the Attorney General call a conference of those agencies of the federal government concerned and involved in the problems creating and resulting from war strain and tension, as well as those organizations both white and Negro concerned with Negro welfare, and the governors, mayors, and law enforcement officials in critical areas where racial tension is mounting and racial disturbances may occur.

Sengstacke said: "We must work hastily on a coordinated basis to keep our war machine rolling. America is the only loser in racial strife.

Violates Law

Walter White, N.A.A.C.P. secretary, said: "Not even Rankin(Rep. John Rankin of Mississippi) has made so diabolical a proposal.

"The movement of the individual within the confines of his own country is one of the fundamental privileges and rights of citizenship.'

"The inequity and injustice of the proposal are appalling. Conceding the right of whites to migrate freely, the Attorney General would condemn colored persons to stay in the South, to work as now at the lowest paying jobs because they are denied, in most instances, skilled and semi-skilled employment even in war industries, and to put them still further at the mercy of plantation owners and other exploiters of colored labor.

"Equally distressing is the fact that a responsible member of the President's Cabinet should propose to the Chief Executive an evasion of the clear responsibility of the government to enforce the laws and to deal justly and equally with all citizens.

"We are inexpressibly shocked that the chief law enforcement officer of the United States should propose so patent a violation of the Constitutional guarantee that 'no person shall be deprived of . . . liberty . . . without due process of law.'

"The movement of the individual within the confines of his own country is one of the fundamental privileges and rights of citizenship. The inequity and injustice of the proposal are appalling. Conceding the right of whites to migrate freely, the Attorney General would condemn Negroes to stay in the South, to work as now at the lowest paying jobs because they

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL

Text Of Biddle Letter Proposing Ban Of Dixie Negro Migration Into North

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON. — More complete details of Attorney General Francis Biddle's proposals to bar Negro migration into the North as a means to stop race riots were revealed here this week.

While Biddle himself took cognizance of newspaper stories reporting his letter to the President, his statement made in answer to a protest letter by the National Urban League denied the plan to bar migration.

However, the newspaper PM published the complete text of Biddle's letter to the President which made clear his request for a halt to migration.

Excerpts from the letter follow:

July 15, 1943

Dear Mr. President:

I sent out a personal representative to Detroit last week to report on the riot situation. He conferred with the Governor, the Mayor, the Commissioner of Police, and other officials. Monsignor Haas also spent three days in Detroit. I have had daily reports from the Federal Bureau of Investigation . . .

The causes of the riots are apparent. During the past three years the population of Detroit has increased by 485,000 people, many of whom are colored. There are no subways or elevated trains in Detroit so that the transportation situation is particularly difficult causing great over-crowding in the buses. The housing situation, particularly among the colored sections, is deplorable. The same is true of the recreation situation, which is greatly overburdened and overcrowded.

Troops Too Late

The Detroit Police Department is, in spite of the increase in population, actually 280 men short of budget allotment. Moreover, many of the present policemen are not well trained on account of the number of men who have been drafted and whose places had to be filled from the only available and often inadequate personnel. These conditions prevail generally throughout the country.

Much of the violence could have been prevented had the troops arrived sooner. It is believed that there was a misunderstanding between the local officials and the military as to what steps should be taken to arrange for troops to come in.

It is extremely interesting that there was no disorder WITHIN PLANTS, where colored and white men worked side by side, on account of efficient union discipline.

I believe that the riots in Detroit do not represent an isolated case but are typical of what may occur in other cities throughout the country. The situation in Los Angels is extremely tense; I am also concerned with the racial unrest in Washington, D.C., Chicago, Ill., and elsewhere. The hot season up to Labor Day, when crowds seek outdoor relief, is the period of greatest danger.

Biddle's Program

I believe that certain steps could be taken which would, to a certain extent, ameliorate similar conditions elsewhere. I therefore recommend:

1. That you suggest to the Secretary of War that he work out a simple manual in co-operation with the Department of Justice which could be used by all local officials and by corps commanders to expedite the procedure of sending in troops.

2. That you suggest to Mr. McNutt that immediate arrangements be made to defer members of the city police forces. In connection with this, I am enclosing a memorandum of July 8th from J. Edgar Hoover, pointing out the seriousness of the present over-burdened municipal police forces whose efficiency and numbers have been greatly affected by the refusal of the authorities to grant deferments. . . . Crime is greatly on the increase among juvenile delinquents: the racial situation is tense; and the overcrowding and shifts in population make the police problems far more difficult than heretofore. Mr. Hoover states that:

"This is a situation prevailing throughout the country. The congestion of population in defense and industrial areas has not been met by a corresponding increase in police. The increased population has largely come from rural areas where police personnel was already at an absolute minimum. Similarly there have been enormous additional burdens placed upon the police because of the war effort."

". . . steps must be taken to defer the manpower necessary to equip our local police agencies. If this is not done promptly I feel that we must expect a repetition of internal disorders such as the Los Angeles 'zoot suit' cases and the Detroit race riots."

3. That careful considerations be given to limiting, and in some instances putting an end to, Negro migrations into communities which cannot absorb them, either on account of their physical limitations or cultural background. This needs immediate and careful consideration. When postwar readjustments begin, and jobs are scarcer, the situation will become far more acute. Witness the dislocations in cities caused by the migrations shortly after the last world war. It would seem pretty clear that no more Negroes should move into Detroit.

Race Committee

4. As to the general situation, I suggest that you direct the organization of an inter-departmental committee consisting of those departments whose activities in one way or another are concerned with race relations. These are: The Department of Justice, the Fair Employment Practice Committee; the War Department; the Navy Department; the National Housing Agency; the War Manpower Commission; the Office of War Information; the National War Labor Board; and possibly the Committee for Congested Production Areas of O. E. M.....

5. Since the Detroit riots I have talked to Monsignor Haas, Bishop Wright, who saw you at the White House, and other persons who are deeply concerned with the race problem. I think it would be advisable that a national committee be formed to make a study of the whole situation and do an extended educational and publicity job chiefly in the local communities.

6. It has been suggested that you should go on the radio to discuss the whole problem. This, I think, would be unwise. However, you might consider discussing it the next time you talk about the overall domestic situation as one of the problems to be considered.

Respectfully yours,
(s) Francis Biddle,
Attorney General.

The President
The White House.

are denied in most instances skilled and semi-skilled employment even in war industries, and to put them still further at the mercy of plantation owners and other exploiters of Negro labor."

Asks Anti-Klan Action

Max Yergan, president of the National Negro Congress, charged that Biddle's proposal would confine Negroes to "the miserable farm conditions of the South."

"The recommendation implies that Negroes are responsible for the riots that have broken out over the country," he asserted. "This is not true. In Detroit, it is clear that the Ku Klux Klan and fifth columnists and anti-war forces were largely responsible for the outbreak. Here the underlying causes of the disturbance, which in no sense was a racial riot, were the jim crow treatment of Negro soldiers in the South, insufficient enforcement of price control, bad housing and juvenile delinquency."

The American Civil Liberties Union urged the Attorney General to withdraw a proposal in favor of "more constructive policies." The union suggested "vigorous criminal action by the Department of Justice against violators of civil rights, provisions for adequate housing and removal of discriminations to which the federal government is a party."

No restrictions, the union said, should be placed upon the movement of workers from one part of the country to another "based upon race," adding that it may be argued with equal force that the migation of white workers from the South to northern cities "has been equally the cause of race disturbance, since they carry with them established prejudices against Negroes."

A Philip Randolph, director of the March on Washington Movement, said the migration ban would "be used to limit the employment opportunities of Negroes in their efforts to secure work in war plants. Moreover, as I see it, it is a violation of the Constitution, because it limits the freedom of movement of American citizens.

"Instead of preventing race riots, it will help constitute a fuse which may touch off the social, economic, racial, political magazine of dynamite which is the result of a long series of injustices and abuse and discrimination and segregation to which the Negro people have been subjected."

The executive board of the Negro Labor Victory committee in New York called upon President Roosevelt to disavow Mr. Biddle's proposal to limit the free movement of Negro citizens who are seeking to relieve the manpower shortage

Workers Want Better Treatment; Florida Faces Labor Shortage

Citrus Growers' Crisis Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

CLERMONT, Fla., Sept. 9—Reports that the well-informed De- the fight to prevent fusal by Florida Citrus Growers to grant certain rights to colored migratory farm workers may cause one of the most critical period of labor shortage this war has ever known. This was revealed in a speech by E. F. ment. In order to attract Dubusk, State supervisor of emer- to the tenth more consideration than we have gency farm labor, to the Annual Lake County Citrus Growers' Institute held here last week. Debusk stated in reporting on Industry needs 2,600,000 more the possible use of Jamaicans in the workers which means that agri- culture will have to do with less; There are 9,400 Jamaicans now. They are good migratory laborers will probably workers but because they expect be low in returning to Florida. the same privileges as white peo- Many have entered industry and ple it is doubtful whether they

WANT GOOD TREATMENT

"I have talked to workers in Tennessee, Kentucky, and other Southern States and find them willing to come to Florida to work in many other sections of the country. In order to attract laborers from that section to the North during the war, these workers might not return. The association that has grown up between the sections of the women were being farms. It was suggested that Florida farmers might investigate these possibilities.

"These were some of the Citrus growers had heavily upon imported labor. rely too much farmers cannot could be used satisfactorily below the Mason-Dixon line.

Plan To Keep Negroes In South Hit By Three Groups

AUG 17 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON — (SNS) — Three organizations had gone on record Monday as opposing a recommendation which it has been reported that Attorney General Biddle made to President Roosevelt proposing that the migration of Negroes from the south to other parts of the country be ended or restricted.

The organizations opposing the alleged proposal included the American Civil Liberties Union, the Negro Newspaper Publishers' Association and the March on Washington Movement.

The Civil Liberties Union urged the Attorney General to withdraw the proposal in favor of "more constructive policies." It suggested "vigorous criminal action by the Department of Justice against violators of civil rights, provisions for adequate housing and removal of discriminations to which the federal government is a party."

No restrictions, the Union said, should be placed upon the movement of workers from one part of the country to another "based upon race," adding that it may be argued with equal force that the migration of white workers from the south to northern cities "has been equally the cause of race disturbance, since they carry with them established prejudices against the Negro."

John H. Sengstacke, president of the publishers association, urged that instead of national unity being strained further by such an unwise and impractical move, that the government immediately undertake to finance a sound program of housing commensurate with the needs now existing in large industrial centers where Negro workers have been called, like other Americans, to work in war plants.

Further, Sengstacke recommended that the unfortunate wave of rumors, charges and counter charges which create tension be brought to an immediate end. He suggested that the Attorney General call a conference of those agencies of the federal government concerned and involved in the problems creating and resulting from war strain and tension, as well as those organizations, both white and Negro, concerned with Negro welfare and the Governors, mayors and law enforcement officials in critical areas where racial tension is mounting and racial disturbances may occur.

AUG 17 1943

In conclusion, Sengstacke said that America must work hastily on a co-ordinated basis to keep the war machine rolling, as it is the only loser in racial strife.

A. Philip Randolph, director of the March-on-Washington Movement, in a letter to Attorney General Biddle deploring the alleged proposal, said that it would be "used to limit the employment opportunities of Negroes in their efforts to secure work in war plants. Further, Randolph said the proposal would be a violation of the constitution, because it would limit the freedom of movement of American citizens and instead of preventing race riots, would help constitute a fuse which may touch off the social, economic, racial, political magazine of dynamite which is the result of a long series of injustices and abuse and discrimination and segregation to which the Negro people have been subjected.

Randolph urged rescinsion of the order in the interest of racial cooperation and harmony. Attention was called to the persistent agitation of migration of poor whites, referred to as "the main carriers of the germ of racial hatred."

"One of the most fundamental and immediate remedies for these social explosions at the present time a national proclamation banishing segregation in the armed forces. Nothing would be more effective than this," Randolph stated.

AUG 17 1943

Negro Papers Score Biddle's Jim Crow Plan

Daily Worker
(New York, N. Worker)

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 12. — Attorney General Francis D. Biddle's recommend action for "limiting—and in some instances putting an end—to Negro migrations into communities which cannot absorb them, either on account of physical limitations or cultural background," has been sharply assailed by the Negro press of this state.

The Pittsburgh Courier reports the Negro leadership in the nation's Capital, has been "rocked," by Biddle's attempt to stop Negro migration.

"It should be impressed upon Mr. Biddle that this attempt to appease the mobocrats is just one step removed from slavery," says an editorial in the Philadelphia **Tribune,** headed: "Attorney General Would Ban Migration of Colored Workers to Northern Cities."

The **Tribune** says, in part:

"It is unthinkable that the chief law enforcement officer of the United States would make such a suggestion. . . . The Attorney General thinks that overcrowding in war production centers is the cause for racial tensions. If that is true, they elect colored workers as a special class to be barred? Do not other workers cause overcrowded conditions?"

ESCAPE FROM SOUTH

"Furthermore, the migration of workers chiefly from the South to the North consists of the submerged workers of both races, anxious to escape the intolerable labor conditions in the South."

According to the story in the **Courier,** Biddle also thought it would be "unwise" for the President to make a fireside chat dealing with anti-Negro violence, except to mention the problem in dealing with the general home front.

The Biddle letter to the President, the **Courier** goes on to say "is believed to have denied the existence of any Ku Klux Klan or Axis provocation; to have insisted that anti-Semitic feeling among Negroes led to the looting of Jewish stores, with the result that many Negroes were shot for looting."

The stories about Biddle are prominently displayed on the front pages of both the **Courier** and the **Tribune,** and have shocked local white as well as Negro leaders, already aroused over Biddle's strike-inciting ruling on the Smith-Connally Act.

Jamaica Farm Aid May Extend Stay

Daily Worker New York N.Y.

By Eugene Gordon

Many of the 10,000 Jamaicans brought to the United States last spring to help farmers through the crisis of the labor shortage may renew their contracts for an additional six months. In that case they would return to their island home next spring rather than this autumn.

This possibility was voiced yesterday by Philip N. Blake, himself a Jamaican, who, with others of his countrymen prominent among the Negro people of New York, has interested himself in the welfare of these volunteers for work in United States farms and their contribution to the anti-fascist war.

Approximately 400 delegates representing the 10,000 Jamaican farm workers were welcomed on Labor Day at Randalls Island by the citizens of New York. A cricket match was played for them, some of the visitors participating, in the stadium. The visitors that evening were given a reception and dinner in Harlem.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACT

The Jamaicans were brought to the United States under contract with their government and ours, on the one hand, between prospective employers in the United States, on the other. Contracts are dated from the men's signing up in Jamaica rather than from the time of their arrival at New Orleans (general center of debarcation).

The Farm Securities Administration has principal charge of the men. They work under the immediate supervision, however, of the War Food Administration. Their contracts definitely stipulate that the Jamaicans be employed in Northern and not in Southern states. The workers are, consequently, scattered through Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Idaho, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Pennsylvania.

Mr. Blake, in answer to a question about the men's treatment and their feeling about it, replied that, at first, in isolated instances—"specifically, Long Island and New Jersey"—there had been "one or two unpleasant incidents in relation to a few American citizens."

The incidents had to do with discrimination, with which the Jamaicans are unfamiliar in their own country and against which they always react. Mr. Blake added:

"It should be emphasized that each man's contract included Executive Order 8802, barring discrimination in war work. Happily, because of this fact and because of the good American sense displayed and the right type of American with which the men have come in contact, real unpleasantness has been averted."

Mr. Blake asked that the Jamaicans not be confused with a group of workers brought to the United States from other islands of the British West Indies, the Bahamas. The Bahamians, he pointed out, are concentrated in the South.

"It has been said that these men are the backbone of Jamaican agriculture," Mr. Blake said, "and that is true. Nevertheless, in particular cases, there are a great many who have never tilled the soil—which fact does not mean," he added, "that they have no knowledge of agricultural economy."

Thus, most of them have come to the United States at some sacrifice. It is a sacrifice, however, they "quite willingly make, realizing that they can achieve the self government for which they strive only if Great Britain is successful in the war against Nazi Germany . . .

Hit Biddle Plan To Block Negro Job Migration

AUG 17 1943

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

In a letter to President Roosevelt, the Negro Labor Victory Committee urges him to disavow Attorney General Biddle's "proposal to limit the free movement of Negro citizens" from the South and to rebuke this high government official.

The Negoes' migration was a move to relieve the manpower shortage of the country, said the letter.

The proposal to limit and in some cases end Negro migration, said the committee, "violates one of the most fundamental rights of American citi-

AUG 17 1943

They're "Bohemians" in Tennessee Mountains

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

MOUNTAIN CITY, Tenn., Sept. —(ANP)—Referred to by local folk as "Bohemians," a group of butterfly-dressed, rhumba-speaking with Bahamian accents of the typical Englishman, are relieving this heavy bean-producing section of its most serious labor pinch in history.

Referred to as "mountain folk," a group of butterfly-dressed, rhumba-speaking with Bahamian accents of the typical Englishman, are relieving this heavy bean-producing section of its most serious labor pinch in history.

The committee also criticizes Biddle's proposal also dis-nection of the groes now reside."

"We cannot ignore the fact that Southern reactionaries, who in- us con- south where the majority of Ne-

have been most active in De-9—(ANP)—Referred to by local your plans for total evidence of any Axis or fascist mountain folk as "Bohemians," a participation of Negroes inter - departmental committee believing Bahamians speaking with industrial war production set up to deal with all delegations the broad accent of the typical e country, by keeping to the President on inter - racial Englishman, are relieving this with respect to easing and elim- -winning the war. the rural areas of the matters."

Negroes in the r

Disclose Biddle, Granger Letters On Migration Ban

Defender

Chicago, Ill.—

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON.—Attorney General Frances Biddle this week released the exchange of correspondence between Lester Granger of the National Urban League and himself concerning the prohibiting of migration of Negroes from the South.

Biddle states in a letter, dated August 12, answering one from Mr. Granger: "I do not think that any effort should be made to prevent the free movement of individuals from one place to another, whether Negro or white, except as war requirements for manpower must be met. The whole problem seems to be one which requires careful study and research before any program can be worked out; and particularly study by those private organizations which are devoted to Negro welfare."

In conclusion, he says: "I would like to emphasize the fact that I know of no present plan to prohibit migration — either private or governmental, either white or Negro — that is now being considered."

Granger informed Biddle: "In the first place, it would probably be unconstitutional and certainly injudicious for the government to use any of its machinery to differentiate on a racial basis between groups of migrant war workers. In the second place, he seems to assume that it is all right for white southerners to migrate and bring their social problems with them, but not for Negro war workers.

"On the other hand, we must recognize that undirected (this is different from 'uncontrolled') migration is evidence of unsound social planning. It is to be hoped that there will be an eventual redistribution of the Negro population, not as it is now being accomplished by having Negroes jammed up into big industrial centers and then spilled over into the adjoining area, but by having them moved into communities where recognized labor shortages are accompanied by advance or concomitant provisions for the newcomers' health and welfare."

Mr. Granger concluded his quoted statement in the letter to Mr. Biddle by saying: "I am not inclined to 'blow my top' because of the Biddle suggestion. He does not say that the federal government should exert these controls. He merely asks for suggestions as to what can or cannot be done. I have enough confidence in Mr. Biddle as a political and social liberal not to believe that he would endorse the prostitution of governmental authority to cramp the occupational advancement of any racial group."

Of his letter to the White House, Mr. Biddle informed Mr. Granger: "Any suggestions — and I cannot accurately call them 'recommendations' — that I made to the President are, of course, strictly confidential, and it would be highly inappropriate for me to comment on their contents. However, it seems to me appropriate to give you my views on the question of excluding Negroes from over-crowded areas, since your letter is particularly addressed to that question."

He does not, however, deny the authenticity of the letter printed in PM, though it appeared before his reply was written to Mr. Granger.

Mr. Biddle stated to Mr. Granger: "Those who have made an objective study of the Detroit riots and of other racial or hoodlum clashes, are of the opinion that certainly one cause of he trouble springs from improper housing and recreational facilities for Negroes as well as for whites, particularly in the over-congested production centers. They believe also that it is extremely difficult for cities to absorb large migrations of war workers, whether Negro or white, over a brief period; and that these migrations therefore necessarily contain the seeds of future dislocations. It seems to me advisable, therefore, that responsible officials should give careful consideration to the extent of required facilities before taking any steps to fill the particular manpower requirements."

AUG 21 1943

ADVICE ON ADVISERS

Defender—Chicago, Ill.

Attorney General Francis Biddle's plan to bar Negro migration from the South is a dead duck, the New York Post reports.

SEP 4 1943

Due credit is deserved by both the New York Post and PM which did a fine job in turning the spotlight on the Biddle plan but perhaps the biggest role in smashing the flagrantly unconstitutional proposal was played by the ever-alert Negro press.

SEP 4 1943

Every Negro newspaper in the land deserves the thanks of our people for immediately opening up an unrelenting and fierce barrage that caused Biddle to immediately take cover. In this fight Negro publishers showed that they have really come of age and carry well the public responsibility which is theirs in these crucial days for the Negro.

But more than anyone else, President Roosevelt is deserving of credit for his good sense in not listening to some of the crackpot ideas of his advisers. As in the case of the battle over the Fair Employment Practices committee, the President finally leaned to the voice of the people rather than to the clique of white "experts" on Negro matters.

However, the Biddle affair serves to emphasize that the President has not made the best choice of advisers. It would seem that the innumerable mistakes they have made in giving the President a distorted picture of the Negro's status should merit walking papers for the group.

The time has come when the Negro, and only the Negro, can be depended upon to know best what his problems are and how they can best be solved. The President would do well to consider bringing Negro advisers into his inner counsels—at least as far as the Negro situation is concerned.

The Suspicion Remains

It is safe to say that most thoughtful Americans will find Attorney General Biddle's "explanation" of his alleged recommendations to the President on restricting Negro migration extremely unsatisfying, and their suspicion that there is "something rotten in Denmark" will remain.

AUG 28 1943

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

Mr. Biddle says that no plan for controlling migration is being considered, and that he does not think movements of the individual should be controlled except as war requirements for manpower must be met.

This seems reasonable enough, but if this is actually the Attorney General's view, why did he recommend such control to the President?

Mr. Biddle stresses the need for "careful study and research before any program can be worked out; and particularly study by those private organizations which are devoted to Negro welfare," which implies that no such study now exists.

If there is no analytical basis for such a program of migration control, why did the Attorney General recommend it?

The suspicion remains that these "explanations" have been improvised to meet the flood of criticism aroused by the "leak" about the recommendations made to the President, and that despite disavowals, the drastic totalitarian step is under consideration.

Responsible Negroes dislike being overly suspicious of the acts of some of their liberal white friends, but experience has been a stern teacher, and "a burned child fears fire." Daily World Atlanta, Georgia

AUG 28 1943

Farm Volunteers Set Record In Md.

WASHINGTON — (SNS) — Any doubt that the 26 Negro Victory Farm Volunteers of Washington, D. C., really meant business when they boarded a bus a couple of weeks ago and headed for Dorchester County, Md., to help harvest a 15,000-acre wartime tomato crop was completely blasted last Tuesday when one of the youngsters, William Hill, picked 103 baskets of tomatoes, or nearly 3,600 pounds.

The Maryland farmers had expected each of the boys to harvest an average of about 50 baskets a day. But most of the boys exceeded this figure, and this 15-year old youth has more than doubled it.

So pleased are the farmers with the work of these youths that another group was recruited last week. Now more than 50 Washington youths are enlisted in the VFV, helping to save vital war crops.

Latest figures available show that the 26 boys have picked and packed more than 15,000 baskets of tomatoes, or nearly 600 tons of the vitamin-rich vegetable.

Many of the boys have never been on a farm before, and all possible work sources to Negro workers are being explored by the VFV, it was said.

Attorney General Urges Move As Step To Stop Racial Outbreaks

Would Use WMC Power

The prohibition of Negro travel would be made through the War Manpower Commission, according to the story. Through its power over war plant employment, the commission could close completely all possible work sources to Negroes.

Biddle's report, it is said, stressed the urgent need for immediate action, claiming that the hot summer given President Roosevelt by Attorney General Francis Biddle, the New York Post reports.

Outbreaks and pointing out that more than a month of summer still remains.

Also contained in the Biddle program is a suggestion that housing detail the Attorney General's plan to create rigid bars against Negro families moving out of the Dixie farm belt, the Post said the proposal was made as an ostensible program to stop racial riots.

Immediately

Diately and that an organized national education campaign for racial understanding be instituted.

See Protests

In the report on the Detroit riots it was Biddle's contention that arrival of Federal troops much sooner would have cut the death toll but this report is followed by an appeal to the President to place barriers against any further Negro migration into the big industrial center.

While there was no denial or confirmation of the story, several Negro leaders were incensed at the plan as reported and are expected to question the attorney General on the authenticity of the Post story.

(Special to the Defender)

NEW YORK.—A sweeping proposal to completely halt all Negro migration from the South to Northern war jobs has been given President Roosevelt by Attorney General Francis Biddle, the New York Post outbreaks and pointing out that said this week.

BIDDLE ASKS BAR ON DIXIE TREK TO NORTH

Defender

Chicago, Ill.

35f-1943

PV Reporter Visits West Indians at Sweedsboro:

Don't Want to Go Back To Homes in Jamaica

People's Voice New York, N.Y.

By WITTIE ANNA BIGGINS

Special

The thrilling story of a secret voyage by ship from the British West Indies to the United States to join America's land army surged the pride of 300 Jamaicans on Sweedsboro, N. J. farms Thursday, as they talked with a PV reporter. But more thrilling was the anxiety of these newcomers over whether they shall have to return to the West Indies when their six months contract has ended.

JUN 12 1943

They are sowing and planting seeds, digging potatoes, cutting asparagus and loading vegetables for the cannery, and some are canning foods. The pay scale is 50c per hour. This is satisfactory, provided they can work eight hours every day, they claim. Though the government pays each man 75c per workless day and guarantees 75 per cent work days on their contract at $3 per day, the Jamaicans are hoping that soon every day will be a full day for each man.

CREW OF 3,000 ARRIVES

Nearly three weeks ago the British land volunteers said good-bye to the remainder of their ship's crew of 3,000. The ship was terribly crowded, conditions were "no bed of roses" but every man landed safely. They in lots of 300 they departed for Farm Labor Supply Centers operated by the United States Department of Agriculture Farm Security Administration in districts where shortage of workers threaten farm products. Though those interviewed were uneasy over where their friends are located, PV learned that some are in Bridgeton, Camden and Bordenton, NJ.

JUN 12 1943

THE SWEEDSBORO STAFF

Camp Superintendent Berryman is "a fine fellow" the boys say, and "is our best friend." He understands our problems." But they were not so enthusiastic about the mess sergeant. An interview with the mess sergeant indicated he is earnestly working 16 to 20 hours a day, trying to satisfy the boys' wants. As is the custom of army officers, he is definite and precise in manner. Anyway, Mable Hawkins, nurse from Baltimore, Md., is doing her bit to keep them healthy. She operates with a hospital on wheels and a medical clinic equipped for nearly any emergency.

JUN 12 1943

GOVERNMENT CONTRACT

All staff members of the camp are employees of the US government. The Jamacians consider themselves not only employees of our government but a combination of United States government and the British government. They discuss with all sincerity their contract between the two governments and talked fluently of world affairs, Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill and the Atlantic Charter.

JUN 12 1943

WORKER'S BACKGROUND

Superintendent Berryman's registration files showed the sixth grade as the lowest scholastic training of workers, and some had completed second year high school. Mr. Berryman discussed with the new incoming superintendent the splendid qualifications of workmen. Though the workers looked questionably at him, an interview proved that he, too, has devoted much time and interest to work with Negro groups, and has given much consideration to activities of the NAACP. His personal contacts with Secretary White have helped prepare him for the work he is now undertaking. As evening approached, and dinnertime neared, the workers were becoming more accustomed to his presence.

The workers have greater opportunity to practice the spirit of democracy in their camp government. The camp council is composed of one person from each section and members of the official staff. They meet weekly, decide upon needed improvements, and busy themselves putting them into practice. The portion of money left over from the juke box coin-drop is disposed of by the council for recreational purposes. It is the unanimous consent of the Jamaicans that the council and staff work together for the welfare of all concerned.

JUN 12 1943

LIVING CONDITIONS

Cottages and army tents large enough for four dotted the 12-acre farm, giving it the appearance of soldiers' barracks. A laundry, two shower houses, a kitchen, cold storage room filled with ice boxes of vitamin drinks and foods, half of lamb, hogs, and hams is important to the farm workers. Although they brought along native cooks, it is obvious that the Jamacians are trying hard to

JUN 12 1943

Fear Fla. Farm Clashes Over Imported Workers

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

JUN 19 1943

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — Liberal groups in the Department of Agriculture are sitting with their fingers crossed in fearful anticipation of trouble — which has already cropped out in two places in Florida—between American migratory farm workers and the imported farm workers from the Bahamas and from Jamaica.

The trouble lies not in any personal or racial differences. The imported workers are all Negroes, and a majority of the American migratory workers are Negroes. Traced back to its initial source, the trouble is the Farm Bureau Federation, and its farm bloc stooges in congress.

Under agreements entered into between this country and the countries of the imported workers, minimum wages, approved housing and working conditions are parts of the terms of employment.

No Minimums

But under Public Law 45—the "slave bill"—which requires the consent in writing of the county agent before an agricultural worker may move out of the county, there is a specific prohibition against the government setting any minimum wage, housing or working standards for the domestic migratory workers.

As a result, domestic migratory workers are being moved out of the government's migratory labor camps and replaced by the imported workers from Jamaica and the Bahamas. These imported workers are also being paid higher wages than are paid most of the domestic migratory workers.

The situation is producing a powder keg of resentment. Domestic workers are being forced to live in whatever the farmers (it's the big farmers who are hiring such workers, of course) provide for them. Many are living in hen coops, or in burlap tents on the side of drainage ditches. They are being told, in some instances, to "like it or lump it—we can get more workers from the islands."

Explosive Situation

The bill which has made this explosive situation possible was sponsored by the Farm Bureau Federation, the representative of the big farm interests and the "boss" of the farm bloc in congress. The Defender pointed out when the legislation was under consideration that its purpose was to create labor pools, under the guise of artificial

JUL 7 1943

MIGRANT TOMATO PICKERS LIVE IN PA. CHICKEN COOPS

Imported From Florida Two Die When Barn Burns

Atlanta Constitution
Quakertown, Pa.—The state will

Jamaican Workers By Discrimination In U. S.

IMLAY, Mich., July 8—(ANP)— Declaring themselves bruited and derpaid at only 40c an hour, victimized by race prejudice stem

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

seek the conviction of Edward O. Mastin for the deaths of Willie Cooper and Mrs. Odell May, Negro migratory workers who were burned to death here August 17 in a barn on the Mastin farm on Route 2. It is expected that the case will be tried early in October.

A personal investigation by John Grantham, president of the Lehigh Valley NAACP Branch, revealed that the victims were two of fifty migratory workers who were brought from Florida by a white contractor to gather in the tomato crop on the Mastin farm. Tomatoes picked by these workers are sold to the government through the Campbell Soup Company.

CRAMMED IN HEN COOPS!

The Union
Cincinnati, Ohio
SEP 23 1943

Quakertown, Pa.—When the trial of E. O. Mastin, tomato farm owner, here in whose barn two migrant workers were burned to death August 17, begins next month, the tomato harvest will be over and most of the impoverished farm hands which he imported from Florida will have moved away in order to continue to make a living, N. A. A. C. P. lawyers said this week. With these witnesses gone chances for a conviction lessen.

At a coroner's hearing at Quaker town on August 27 the coroner's jury held Mastin responsible for the deaths of Willis Cooper and Mrs. Odell May. Cooper and Mrs. May were trapped in a crowded barn in which several families lived on the Mastin farm. There were no fire escapes and only one exit.

An investigation of the case by John Grantham, president of the Lehigh Valley N. A. A. C. P. Branch here had revealed that the workers on the Mastin farm live almost in the state of peonage.

Most of these workers, who were brought here from Florida to pick tomatoes which are sold to the government through the Campbell Soup Company, are housed with their families in tiny chicken coops filthy and unfit for human habitation. Although dissatisfied with living conditions the workers claim they have been unable to earn enough money to leave the farm.

St. Petersburg, Fla., Times
October 26, 1943

County Seeking Camp Site For Bahaman Labor

CLEARWATER — While nothing definite has been settled in regard to providing suitable quarters to house Bahaman negroes who will be imported into Pinellas county as emergency workers in citrus groves, county officials are hoping that some plan can be made within the week.

Sponsors of the proposed plan to import the workers are expected to renew negotiations for a new camp site at a special meeting of the board of county commissioners this week. The next regular meeting of the board is scheduled for next Tuesday. It has been suggested by some that accommodations be provided at the site of the former Oldsmar race track, which was recently vacated by the Army.

Plans to quarter the workers at the Largo fair grounds met with the disapproval of the Largo city commission last Friday night.

NEGRO MIGRATION IS NOT THE ANSWER

From The Louisville Defender and
SEP 4 1943
Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va.

After reading comments pro and con on the recent alleged statements of Attorney General Biddle apropos of the curtailment of Negro migration from the South to the North, we are further up a tree as to just what is going on than we were when it first became public knowledge that he had approached the President on this subject.

Due to the fact that no authentic detailed publication of the proposition has been made, comments and interpretations must perforce remain in the realm of pure conjecture, the subsequent explanatory statements made by the Attorney General not withstanding. Whether the proposition as quoted by various publications presents the true picture or whether the Attorney General's explanation is correct does not make the situation any clearer. If the first is a true picture, then the Attorney General displays an amazing lack of understanding of democratic principles and an unfortunate lack of sympathy for conditions for one in his exalted governmental position. If on the other hand, there is logic in his explanation, which we doubt, there is also a too obvious attempt at sublety.

If he would be both democratic and logical in his attempts to stop race friction, why not place the same restriction on white southerners as well as black. If Negro migration North is the sole cause of race friction, then WHY THE ROITS IN MOBILE, TEXAS AND OTHER SOUTHERN COMMUNITIES?

Deny Plan To Halt Negro Migration

The Plaindealer
AUG 20 1943
Kansas City, Kan.

Washington, Aug. 20. (ANP) —A denial by a White House spokesman that such had been received and by Atty. Gen. Francis Biddle himself that he opposed preventing the free movement of individuals from one place to another, whether Negro or white complicated charges last week that Biddle had recommended to President Roosevelt that Negro migration to many northern communities be halted because of the Detroit race riot and increasing racial tension in other large urban areas.

The attorney general's denial was disclosed in an exchange of letters with Lester Granger, National Urban league secretary, and released Friday.

"I do not think that any effort should be made to prevent the free movement of individuals from one place to another, whether Negro or white, except as war requirements for manpower must be met," said the Biddle statement. "The whole problem seems to be one which requires careful study and research before any program can be worked out, and particularly a study by those private organizations which are devoted to Negro welfare."

Following publication by the New York Post last week that in a special report to President Roosevelt on the Detroit riot the attorney general had recommended, among other things, that Negro migration into certain industrial areas be limited or halted "due to the inability of colored migrants to be absorbed by the community because of their physical limitations or cultural background," the White House issued a categorical denial that such a memorandum had ever been received.

However, before the Post exposed the matter, it was common talk among inner Washington circles that such a communication had been sent to the President under the date of July 15 and over the signature of Francis Biddle, the attorney general.

MR. BIDDLE'S BLUNDER

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa
AUG 28 1943

It seems almost incredible that Attorney General Biddle, the chief law enforcing official of our government, should allow himself ever to take any part in the proposed suggested program of preventing Negroes from moving to Detroit. Such a rule would be clearly unconstitutional and unjustified by any war power Congres has given the executive branch of the government.

Evidently, Mr. Biddle has been greatly misinformed about just what caused the Detroit or may be he has been misled from some source to keep Negroes in the south where they may be more easily exploited.

Recently, quite a hot bed of spies has been uncovered in Detroit. The NAACP and the CIO charged Nazi influence—either American or foreign—was at the bottom of the trouble. And while the FBI and other investigators branded the charge as false, very effective work was done by the rioters even though uninspired by the Axis.

Of course, this scheme of Mr. Biddle is just another plan to dodge the real issue: that is the failure of local law officials to protect Negroes in the enjoyment of their rights.

Mr. Biddle will not get anywhere with his program. But it does look bad for Mr. Roosevelt when his chief law adviser is employing tactics to embarrass the Negro while Mrs. Roosevelt is trying to do just the opposite. Do we have the old familiar game of playing both ends against the middle?

State Seeks Conviction for Death of 2 Tomato Pickers

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa
SEP 9 1943

Quakertown, Pa.—The state will seek the conviction of Edward O. Mastin for the deaths of Willie Cooper and Mrs. Odell May, Negro migratory workers who were burned to death here August 17 in a barn on the Mastin farm on Route No. 2. It is expected that the case will be tried early in October.

A personal investigation by John Grantham, president of the Lehigh Valley NAACP Branch, revealed that the victims were two of fifty migratory workers who were brought from Florida by a white contractor to gather in the tomato crop on the Mastin farm. Tomatoes picked by these workers are sold to the government through the Campbell Soup Company.

Most of the workers are housed in chicken coops; the largest being about 7 feet square and only 5 feet in height. Grantham said in his report "workers along with their children are living in these small chicken coops—and these little coops, even if they were fit to live in, are too small for a couple to live in comfortably—but the most horrible thing of all is that nearly every worker has a large family and he and his family live in these small houses. This condition is worse than slavery ever could have ever been." Unable to take pictures of the housing provided for the migratory workers, who were brought from Florida by a white contractor to gather in the tomato crop on the Mastin farm, tomatoes picked by these workers are sold to the government through the Campbell Soup Company.

Housed in Coops

Most of the workers are housed in chicken coops; the largest being

SEP 9 1943

Evidence presented at the hearing showed that several families lived in the barn. Some of the persons had oil stoves on which they cooked. The barn was filled with hay and other inflammable material. There were no fire escapes; the only exit being through one door and the windows.

District Attorney Edward Blister, Doylestown, Pa., said that in order for the state to make its case it would be necessary for Claude Jackson, one of the workers, to be the last saw the deceased persons alive, to appear as a witness. Jackson has agreed to remain in the state.

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Though dissatisfied with the conditions under which they have been forced to live, the workers said that the described as filthy and unfit for human habitation, they have not been able to earn enough money for railroad fares

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Elizabethton, Tenn., Sta.
August 13, 1943



A few of the Bahama Islanders now picking Johnson county's beans. They differ little in general physical characteristics from the Memphis Negroes who are also encamped nearby to assist Johnson county farmers in harvesting their bean crop.

Negroes Pick Large Portion Of Johnson County's Bean Crop

of Nassau, the Bahamas, has charge of the cooking and feeding of the nearly 350 Bahamans. She is also secretary of the council on local government among the natives.

This spring when the bean growers of Johnson county planted their seed and commenced cultivating their fields they worried about the weather, the future market price and the difficulty of getting help to pick their beans. However, a group of businessmen and growers of Johnson county arranged with the United States Government to recruit and transport to Johnson county Negroes from the Memphis, Tennessee area and natives from the Bahama Islands.

The government secured land two or three miles out of Mountain City, supplied wooden platforms and canvas tents, the necessary cooking and feeding equipment to care for these itinerants, and this well laid out and managed tent city is a sight to behold. There are two camps. Camp No. 1 houses the Tennessee Negroes, and camp No. 2, which adjoins it, houses the Negroes from the Bahamas, numbering approximately 350 men and women. The camp has a trailer clinic with a nurse in attendance and Mountain City doctors can be called in case of illness, a camp director and staff headquarters. A tent similar to those used by circuses houses the mess hall, and this tent is also used for recreational and religious purposes, there is also a large cook tent.



Mrs. Gadore Banfield, a native

Among the government supervisors, all of whom are white, is A. W. Livingwood of Winston Salem, N. C.; George F. Newsom and Garvis E. Love of Burlington, N. C.; Goodwin Barnes and Joe G. Frick. Mr. Frick is from Salisbury, N. C. and is the oldest in point of service among the government camp directors. Pictured on this page are several views [illegible] natives of the Bahamas.

Your reporter talked with several of the islanders and found Mrs. Gadore Banfield who has charge of the cooking and feeding of the Bahamas a most intelligent woman. She is about 45 years of age, has a son in college and acts as the secretary of the camp council or local government among the islanders. This council has a president and vice president and it is their duty to discipline any member who violates any of the various rules laid down by the council or by the United States Government.

The islanders contracted with the U. S. government for a year's service in this country. As soon as they are finished picking beans they will be moved by the government to other areas where they will continue agricultural work. The government guarantees to pay them $3.00 per day, minus whatever they may make. They work on a piece or commission basis, but the government guaranteed that it would supply the necessary funds which would insure each and every one of the islanders an income of at least $3.00 per day plus sleeping quarters, breakfast and supper. They have to purchase their lunch wherever they may happen to be at noontime.

These islanders were carefully chosen by the U. S. government and all of them have at least a grammer school education and many of them are high school graduates. Most of them are in the upper strata of Negro society in their native islands and realizing that the United States is making a great war effort and considering the low wages they receive on the island they volunteered for the year's service. Thus far they have caused no trouble and are considered a thrifty, industrious and unusually well behaved people.

For the most part, they are quite religious. The Baptist denomination predominates, with Methodists and Roman Catholics following in the order given. They hold religious services, musicals, play baseball and other sports.

Like all congregations of peoples they are tall, short, fat and lean, very black, light and extra light in complexion. They are unusually polite, friendly and seem to respect property and personal rights of others.

Among those present are professional landscape gardeners, painters, carpenters, brick masons, etc.

Many of them play cards but are not allowed to play for money. Some of them are married couples, others single. Their breakfast usually consists of hominy grits, bacon and eggs and coffee. Breakfast is served at 7:30 and the evening meal at 6:30. The evening meal consists of peas and rice, steamed meat or pork chops, a variety of vegetables, soft drinks or coffee.

They are planning on giving a musical entertainment and hope that many of the citizens of Johnson and Carter counties will attend, and if your reporter is any judge, this entertainment will be interesting to the nth degree.

Mrs. Banfield and others state they like Tennessee, especially Johnson county, and they compare it favorably with their native islands.

Most of these Bahamans live in Nassau which is the capital of the islands and contains the government buildings and the residence of the Governor General, the Duke of Windsor and his wife, the American born duchess.

One interesting fact learned from the islanders is that there are no railroads in the Bahamas, but there are good roads on New Providence Island and a few elsewhere.

When your reporter asked Mrs. Banfield how the natives like the Duke and Duchess of Windsor, she replied, "We natives are crazy about the Duke, and the Duchess is charming and so well mannered."



Nathaniel Moxey, 23-years-old, a general farm worker at home. He says he likes Johnson county.

BAHAMA NEGROES HARVEST BEANS

New Orleans (La.) Times-Picayune
August 30, 1943

Rhumba-Loving Crowd Aiding in Tennessee

(The Associated Press)

Mountain City, Tenn., Aug. 29.—Brightly dressed, rhumba loving Negroes, natives of the Bahama islands who speak with the broad accent of the typical Englishman, are helping this heavy bean producing section out of a serious labor pinch.

The 425 Bahamans—many of the townsfolk hereabouts call them "Bohemians"—are residents of a nearby farm labor supply center set up by the government to help out in the harvest of Johnson county's bean crop.

Former butlers, chauffeurs, chefs, ladies' maids, clerks and laborers, the Negroes were recruited in the islands by employment services under the war food administration's office of labor, and contracted to work in the United States for one year. They entered the country at Miami where they were given passport numbers and checked for communicable diseases, and soon afterward were sent here.

A common ailment during their first few days here was the common cold, many of them complaining of the cool breezes — they called it the "drahf" — in those foothills of the Blue Ridge mountains.

The Bahamans work from seven to ten hours a day and are considered by camp officials and local farmers alike as some of the best bean pickers ever to operate in this area. One farmer said they were meticulous in their work, picking only the best beans and taking especial care of the vines.

The Negroes are immaculate in their dress, favoring brilliant colors just as Southern Negroes but adding a few touches of their own in the choice of bright headdress and flowered shirts.

They are paid the prevailing rate of 40 cents a bushel for their picking. Their camp is similar to any army cantonment. There they pay 25 cents for each of the two meals they are served daily and must provide their own clothes. The government retains 25 cents out of each dollar, sending it to relatives or saving it to pay for the passage back to the island.

Saturday night, of course, is dance night for the pickers. Their favorite dance is the rhumba, performed to the accompaniment of their own orchestra made up of fellow workers.

From here, the workers will be moved around October 1 either to Virginia to pick apples or to Florida for more bean picking. One of the Negroes said he prayed every night he would be sent to Florida where "the sun shines like it does on the beautiful islands."

Montgomery, Ala. Advertiser

More Bahama Labor Is Sought For U. S. Fields

NASSAU, BAHAMAS, July 3.—(AP)—American officials here are recruiting an additional 1,000 Bahamian laborers for farms in the United States. They will join more than 2,000 [illegible]

[illegible] Chicago Defender

Florida Planters Yell 'Pirates' As Workers Go North

CAMDEN, N. J. — A warehouse threatened an investigation of the 'alleged labor piracy' [illegible] Jersey and here has been turned into a dormitory to house 434 Negro migrant farm workers who will work at the Campbell Soup company plant, helping to pack tomatoes during the rush season. The workers were recruited from the ranks of citrus pickers and packers of Orange County, Fla. Authorities in Florida, it is said, resented hiring of the workers and

While Florida Officials Protest

438 FARM WORKERS ARRIVE IN CAMDEN

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

State Officials Claim Soup Company Violates State Law

By JACK SAUNDERS
(Staff Correspondent)

CAMDEN, N.J., Aug. 5—A contingent of Florida farm laborers, 438 strong, arrived in Camden last Sunday to work on this year's tomato crop for the Campbell Soup company. While the workers were en route, Attorney General J. T. Wilson of Florida informed Orlando, Fla., citrus growers, who had protested bitterly over the removal of the workers, that he would conduct a full investigation of their recruitment.

Previously, Ben Fishback, Orange County (Florida) attorney, charged that the Citrus and Allied Workers' union, CIO, and the soup company had violated a recently-enacted law. The union is a Government agency. A county license costing $500 is also required. Neither license was obtained, Fishback charged.

WMC SUPERVISED RECRUITING

J. E. Heap, Jr., representing the Campbell company, said that the War Manpower commission had supervised the recruitment, and that he "merely came to Florida to assist with the arrangements." An official of the union involved said the union withdrew from the recruiting movement because it "did not care to participate in a controversy."

W. S. Sloan, a WMC representative, said, however, that the workers left Orlando "without the sanction of the commission," and George Simmons, director of the U.S. Employment Service at Orlando, said that 344 of the 438 workers had been cleared by his office as eligible for transfer to Camden, but that all had left without necessary "referral cards."

FEEL U. S. BACKTRACKED

Consequently, when local authorities in Washington agreed to import labor from the Caribbean colonies of Britain, Indians—like their fellow African compatriots—signed up to go to the United States, attracted by higher wages. To their surprise, American immigration officials have now refused to allow West Indians of Asiatic descent to enter the country.

WEST INDIANS IRKED BY BIAS OF AMERICANS

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

By GEORGE PADMORE
(London Correspondent)

LONDON, Aug. 5—America's ban against East Indian agricultural workers recruited in the island of Jamaica to help relieve labor shortage in the United States has called forth vigorous protest from nationalist and trade union leaders.

Among the native populations of Jamaica, Trinidad and other parts of the West Indies are thousands of Asiatics brought from India by the British sugar plantation com-

Jamaican Workers Yield Disease Scare

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

By DAVIS LEE
(Editor, N.J. Afro-American)

BRIDEGTON, N.J.—The death of one Jamaican migrant farm worker from typhoid fever, and the discovery that some others have syphilis, has precipitated an immediate investigation by the New Jersey Health Department, the AFRO-AMERICAN learned Monday.

The typhoid victim, Clinton Porter, 26, of Cross Keys, Jamaica, died Saturday in the Bridgeton Hospital. The body, handled by the Mack Funeral Home, was returned to the West Indies at U.S. Government expense.

Only one of the 600 migrants housed at the camp was infected by the typhoid germ, Dr. J. Earl Steward, of the health department, said Monday night, having picked it up at New Orleans, the port of entry.

Officials Blamed

He criticized the Jamaican Government for sending the workers here without first inoculating them and U.S. immigration authorities for letting them enter the country without first knowing that they had been inoculated and were free of syphilis.

Also being considered is a thorough investigation of the entire migrant situation, touching, among other things, the alleged health menace created by consignment of Southern migrant workers to tents in a swamp area when they were forced out of the government cabins to make room for the Jamaicans.

Since the camp is all colored, the citizens will demand full utilization of the services of local colored doctors and nurses. Dr. Leonard G. Scott is already on the staff, but it is charged that the migrant workers have been advised to use white doctors.

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

WEST INDIAN FARM WORKERS SHIP OVER-CROWDED, UNSANITARY

Washington (ANP)—Col. J. Taylor, deputy war food administrator, last week issued a statement confirming a report that one of the two ships on which Jamaican farm workers were imported to this country was crowded and without adequate sanitary facilities, that a "disturbance" occurred, and that one of the workers accidentally fell overboard and was lost at sea.

This was the first official statement on the incident from the war food administration. The ship carried about 4,000 Jamaican workers, intended in the farm areas of northern and eastern states.

Taylor, in charge of farm labor for the agency said:

"The Jamaican workers are now comfortably sheltered in a government operated camp where they remain pending their placement on farms needing their assistance, which is now proceeding."

200 from Bahama I. Do Md. Farm Work

Pittsburgh Courier
Afro-American
Baltimore

By RUTH JENKINS

SALISBURY, Md.—Life at the FSA farm labor camp at Hebron, Md., inhabited by 200 native Bahamans who work on nearby farms, is [illegible] ing accommodations.

Some of the facilities are conveniently modern, but the majority, as yet, are extremely primitive.

The camp is made up of about 100 single-room wooden shelters, each containing two single cots, a stove, an assortment of tables, chairs and other bare necessities.

About 50 tents have been pitched for the 100 additional workers expected this week. Of the 200 now there, about 30 are women who accompanied their husbands, brothers or fathers. No children are in the group.

Transported Back, Forth

They do field work at nearby farms and canneries. Their employers send for them each morning and return them to camp each night after work.

Accustomed to this type of work, they are not hampered by the long hours in the sun and they report that their employers treat them with the utmost consideration.

Their wages are controlled by the FSA area in which they work and at Hebron, it is 40 cents per hour. Since there is no limit on the hours they may work, their salaries vary, but each is guaranteed the basic hourly pay.

Plan Weekly Pay System

Some are paid weekly and others daily, but efforts are underway to establish a uniform weekly paying system. Seventy-five cents of each worker's daily earnings are sent to his home, either for dependants or for a personal savings account.

While the dining hall is still undergoing construction, a large circus tent serves this purpose as well as that of reception hall, community church and general meeting room.

The kitchen is an open-air barracks, equipped with all necessary utilities, but the individuals usually get drinking water from an old-fashioned hand pump. There are no radios at the camp.

Has Modern Shower Baths

On the other hand, the camp boasts two modern shower baths, one for men and the other for women; a unit laundry and two fully-equipped medical clinics, one of which is set up in a trailer.

Since the camp is not yet two weeks old, most of its recreational, educational and community projects are still in the development stage.

System of Self-Government

These projects are being instituted under the camp's self-government system. The workers have elected Lewis Wright as council chairman and have appointed committees on law and order, health and sanitation, general welfare, education, religion and recreation.

The camp manager, Charles R. Allspach, white, serves mostly in an advisory capacity.

Mealtime at the camp is an interesting experience. Each worker brings his own plate and eating utilities to the community kitchen where all the cooking is done. Plans are done. The stoves in the shelters considered for dancing are only used for heat on chilly nights.

Recreation Center

The huts has been out-er reading and games magazines, current magazines, and cards. Plans are director of the spiritual, human relations and recreational set-ups.

Dr. Yaeger arrived at camp on Monday. However, since that time, a non-denominational community church has been organized and three religious meetings have been held in the big tent.

Embryo Recreation Center

One of the huts has been fitted as a reading and games room with current magazines, checkers, and cards. Plans are also being considered for dancing.

Workers who were found to have ministerial talent were appointed associate directors of the Catholics through the Home Mission Council, established at the camp as director of the spiritual, human program.

Dr. Carl E. Yaeger, former director of Los Angeles, Cal., is Institute of Marriage Guidance

The workers are allowed to go into Salisbury for entertainment if they desire, but a long-range program is being developed.

Florence E. Johnson of Boston, a nurse. While Miss Johnson takes care of all immediate medical needs, a white nurse, Mrs. Allspach said: "They are a self-respecting, self-governing group of people. They are giving it their all."

Exhibiting pride in the progress being made by the group in solving their problems and in working so conscientiously, Mr. Allspach said: "They are a self-respecting, self-governing group of people. They are giving it their all."

Fed by Army Mess Sergeant

The menus are arranged by an army mess sergeant. Armed with tickets to avoid repeat servings, the workers pass in line to receive their own checkers, and are also being considered for dancing.

The workers are allowed to go facilities.

The clinic is conducted by Miss Johnson of Boston, a nurse. While Miss Johnson takes care of all immediate medical needs, a white nurse, Mrs. Allspach said: "They are a self-respecting, self-governing group of people. They are giving it their all."

The clothing of the workers is

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Guardian
Boston, Mass.

COLORED SOUTHERN FARMERS ARRIVE IN "PROMISED LAND"

APR 17 1943

Bay State Boys Have Another Word For Dixie

Well, the first U. S. assignment of migratory farm workers has arrived in Massachusetts, and all are Colored citizens from the very deep south.

"I reckon they come from around the Ozark Mountains," commented a white southern acquaintance of your reporter last Monday; a southerner who incidentally hails from Jackson, Mississippi. APR 17 1943

"Those Ozarks are quite a heap of mountain" continued the southern gentleman, squinting through the smoke of an expensive cigar. "You know, folks live up there in those hills and seldom come to the cities. They get along on what they raise mostly . . . War has hit em all pretty hard these days, what with high prices, scarcities and the like . . . Can't even shoot much game like they used to . . It'll be good for the Colored people to come north . . . They'll pick up education, get along better than down there."

APR 17 1943

More Coming Here

The 98 farm workers from Missouri will not be the last contingent of southerners to come north. There will be hundreds of others before next harvest season rolls around in New England. Whether assigned here or not, many southerners are planning to come, (and are coming) to the north much to the dismay of their former taskmasters. This is a mere repetition of the first world war when thousands of Colored changed geographical locations with many acquiring jobs in the Middle West. Every war involving this nation has found a resultant trek of Colored people from the south. In this war, there are more southern boys in the Armed Forces and many of them are stationed in the north. It is quite obvious to most people that even after this war is over, a large percentage of Colored southerners who have seen the north will never return south. I believe that this situaion will even cause Congressional discussion. White southerners will feel lost without the loyal Colored man.

APR 17 1943

Boston, "Freedom-Land"

Boston to the average newcomer from the south, is a brand new liberty-land, minus all the restricted signs on theatres, clubs, restaurants, and transportation. Reactions are varied, sometimes amusing, sometimes tragic. Many perhaps most southerners who have come north have settled down and made good. A few have preferred to "clown" and make it hard for the rest. A few have fallen for the wiles of women of other races and made saps of themselves in doing so. And some have been intoxicated with new found freedoms and landed in jails. All of these pitfalls will have to be pointed out by those of us in position to do so. A people long suppressed and denied proper education will naturally make mistakes just as some of us with so called superior learning. Boston is not a perfect freedom-ground but, such as it is, we welcome our southern brothers.

APR 17 1943

Contrast In Dixie

By vividly sharp contrast, the "welcome" our Bay State Colored boys have received in the south is not so pleasant. In stating this, please note that our boys are all over the south and that your writer has received some first hand reports on the subject. In spite of all handkerchief-happy reports to the contrary, the average northern Colored boy in the south has not and is not enjoying his experience. And that is putting it mildly. As a matter of fact, the Honorable Judge William H. Hastie proved this very point when, as a result of his militant action, Colored airpilots were recently transfered from Alabama to Michigan. Thus we have the transfer of Colored from north to south and vice versa and the result just doesn't seem to come out even. If, as some say, the north is a sort of "promised-land," I often wonder what title our Boston boys are giving to the south. And yet there should be no ocassion for bitterness. It would seem that liberal southerners ought to be ashamed of such conditions and go out of their way to correct them. After all, the south once prided itself on "southern hospitality." Remember? APR 17 1943

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

PLAIN TALK

by Elmer A. Carter

Apr. 3, 1943

THE Florida fruit and vegetable growers want to import 18,000 Negroes from the Bahama Islands to work on their plantations. There are 100,000 unemployed disinherited black and white white sharecroppers in the South anxious to work in Florida or anywhere else.



Elmer Carter

One would think that the Florida growers would use the Suthern sharecroppers to plant and harvest their crops. The Southern Tenant Farmers Union with a membership of 20,000 sharecroppers of both races can supply the Florida growers with native born Americans, who have the South. They offered to send these men to Florida, but the Florida growers did not want them because the Tenant Farmers Union insisted that they would have to take both colored and white together. The Florida growers wanted only colored men to work on their plantations and refused to accept mixed groups. They didn't want white men. Why? Is it because white men are not good workers? No. Is it because they would have to pay colored and white sharecroppers the same wages and offer them the same working conditions? White men are not so easy to shove around as colored men, and when they work together, the same standards of treatment must be applied to both. Apr. 3, 1943

Don't Want Americans

And so the Florida growers do not want the American sharecroppers. They want Bahamas half hungry, underpaid, underfed, docile workers. They want cheap labor which was the reason for the establishment of the slave system in Americ aand is responsible for the perpetuation of widespread poverty and untold misery in the South.

The growers in the Southwest wanted to import Mexican labor and they hoped to get the labor of the Mexican cheap, with little or no regard for the conditions under which they lived and worked, conditions which have been revealed as shocking in their violation of all standards of decency. But the Mexican government stepped in and demanded certain guarantees for its citizens who were to be imported to work in America. The Mexican government demanded a minimum wage and certain standards of housing and decent working conditions.

Will the British government do as much for the Bahamanas?

Will the British government inform the American government that it will consent to the importation of British subjects only on condition that they receive a minimum wage for a fixed number of hours of work, decent housing and sanitary living conditions?

Should Protect Natives

Surely the British government should be willing to do as much for their subjects of the Bahama Islands as the Mexican government has done for its citizens. But even before this aspect of the situation reached the discussion stage, it is imperative that the Secretary of Agriculture and the U. S. Congress examine the motives which have prompted the Florida growers to spurn the offer of unemployed and available American workers willing and able to work on their plantations.

What have the Bahamans got that Americans haven't got? Are the Florida growers attempting to sabotage the labor standards as to wages and hours and conditions of wor kthat have been established by the Farm Security Administration?

These things Americans have a right to know.

Asheville, N. C. Citizen
July 21, 1943

BAHAMA NEGROES ARE HOUSED AT HENDERSON CAMP

Bean Rust Is Reducing Beans Expected For Harvest Now

HENDERSONVILLE — Three hundred and ninety-seven Bahamian negroes have arrived at the Henderson county migrant labor camp since last Saturday, bringing to approximately 825 the number of workers now housed on the site of the Western North Carolina Fair grounds, it has been announced here.

The latest and last group expected to arrive during the current season, arrived Monday afternoon, Carl Buchanan, manager of the local office of the U. S. Employment service, stated.

The Bahamians came here from near Elizabeth City, and had been employed in that area in the potato harvest. They were brought into this country on a temporary basis through negotiations with the Bahamian government to assist in the harvesting of produce along the eastern seaboard of the United States.

Farm and employment officials stated Monday that the arrival of the additional laborers definitely solves the harvest problem for July and August.

A bean rust which is believed to have developed due to the excess of rain, has greatly decreased the crop which was expectd to be ready for harvesting this week, G. D. White, county farm agent, stated Monday. A number of growers already have plowed under beans which they expected to pick this week.

This development, it was explained, will reduce the number of beans to be picked during the next week or ten days. Heavy rains which prevented the planting of beans for nearly three weeks will cause a lull in the picking season during most of August.

However, it is believed that an unusually large amount of acreage will be put into beans during the next week or ten days which, it was said, will result in the season's heaviest harvesting period during the month of September.

Whether labor now on hand can be kept sufficiently busy during August, due to the light harvest, for it to remain until the September picking is doubtful, Mr. Buchanan said.

If there is not sufficient work for the laborers during August most of them will go elsewhere and a shortage will again develop in September when the peak season is expected to occur.

Florida Guard Called To Quiet Bahamans

News
Birmingham, Ala.

HASTINGS, Fla.—(AP)—Two companies of the Florida State Guard were called here Thursday to assist in maintaining order following a disturbance Wednesday night at a camp housing Bahaman workers.

Constable Archie Greene said two Bahamans were shot and about 100 were arrested. Between 400 and 500 participated, he said, but all was quiet Thursday and most of the Bahamans were back at work in the fields.

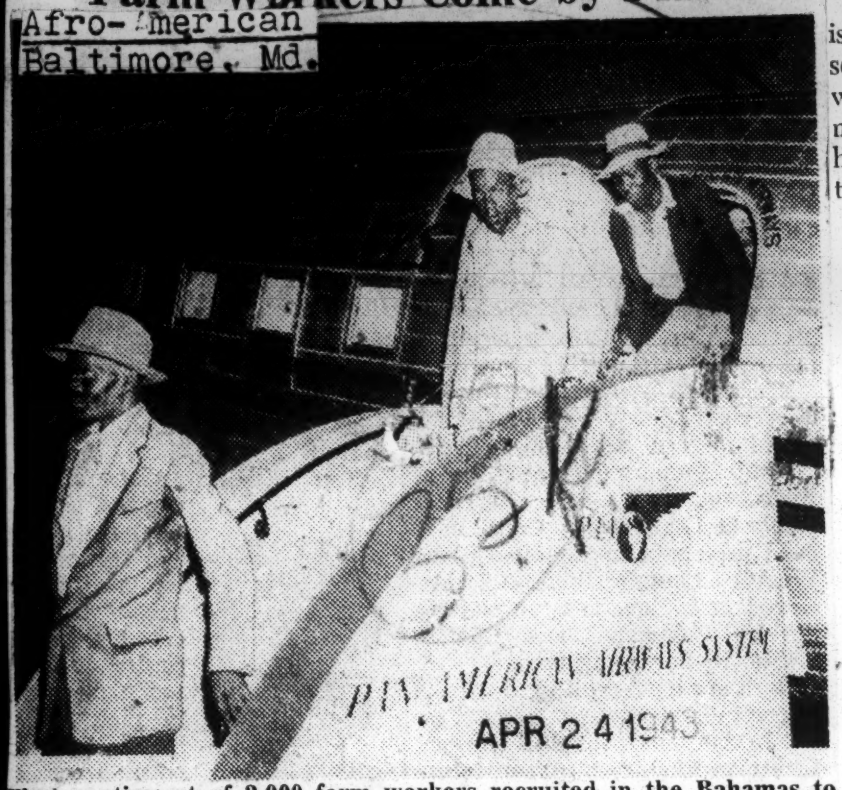
Greene said he did not know the cause of the disorder but said the foreman called for help when Negroes began throwing milk bottles. Neither of those shot was seriously injured.

At St. Augustine, Adjt. Gen. Vian Collins said he was informed here in a camp under government supervision.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

Farm Workers Come by Plane

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.



First contingent of 2,000 farm workers recruited in the Bahamas to work on Florida farms, shown as they arrived in Miami by Clipper plane. Of the grou pof 23 flown in, three were women. Most of them wore summer clothing, white shoes and no coats. Some of the younger men wore zoot suits and hats with feathers.

WFA Admits Camp Conditions Are Not What They Should Be

PM
New York, N.Y.
JUL 8 1943

The WFA (War Food Administration) is investigating the complaint of West Indian farmhands that they spent hungry days in the Government's labor camp at Swedesboro, N. J. A WFA spokesman admitted that food and housing in the camp had not been all they should have been, but said that more co-operation from the Jamaicans in the camp would help. There is a tendency to blame the Jamaicans for some of their own troubles.

On the other hand, PM learned that the Jamaican labor program struck serious obstacles recently in another state—Michigan—and that officials there credit the Jamaicans with full co-operation which helped overcome the problems.

Michigan found the Jamaicans so "intelligent, gentlemanly and co-operative," an official said, that one Michigan chamber of commerce was impelled to apologize to them publicly after the Detroit race riots.

Successful Camp

The latter incident occurred in Emily City, Mich., where one camp of Jamaicans—a successful camp—is operating.

In Emily City, after the Detroit riots, citizens became "edgy" toward the Jamaicans. Some merchants didn't want to serve them.

"But after the Jamaicans had been around for a few days and businessmen saw how intelligent, gentlemanly and co-operative they are, the Chamber of Commerce apologized to them publicly," Roswell Carr, Michigan State Director for the WFA Labor Office, said.

"A public meeting was held and the Jamaicans were told they were welcome to buy anywhere. Churches took them in and the stores and movies opened their doors to them."

Poor Housing

Emily City is the bright spot in an otherwise troubled situation in Michigan. Of 1500 Jamaicans sent there, several hundred had to be withdrawn and sent to Wisconsin and Minnesota because the rainy Spring weather delayed the beet crop and left them without work.

"We had men scattered around the state in deserted farmhouses and other shelters provided by the sugar industry," Carr said. "But we soon found that didn't work."

The housing was inadequate and there were feeding problems.

"Frankly, there wasn't anything right," Carr said. "We could all be criticized—and yet it wasn't really our fault. We were all green at it, that's all."

WFA and Farm Security Administration (FSA) officials in New Jersey, Michigan and elsewhere have worked earnestly to make the Jamaican program work, although handicapped by Congressional curtailment of funds.

Military Police Used Fire Hose Sticks On Jamaican "Hell Ship"

WASHINGTON, (ANP) — Four thousand Jamaican farm workers, herded onto a United States army transport built to accommodate 1,900 persons and since described as a "hell ship" docked at a gulf coast port two weeks ago where it discharged its cowed and bulldozed cargo of black humanity, victims of beatings and intimidation at the hands of military police of the U. S. Army.

One man is dead, reportedly washed overboard when a fire hose was played upon the men by the MP's who sought to quell the rioting that had broken out when it became evident that it was impossible to "make equitable distribution of food and water."

Taken off the ship on which they had been brought here as "slaves" to till American farmlands, under the auspices of the War Food administration, the Jamaicans were rounded up in a concentration camp where they were kept until their distribution to other camps had been arranged.

So serious was the situation that the Jamaican government was compelled to make representations to the state department here. As a result, a full report was submitted last Thursday, through the British Embassy, on the "unfortunate incidents" that had taken place on the ship.

The report further said that the incidents which occurred "could not have been forseen, and that precautions will be taken to prevent repetition on future trips," according to a state department official who preferred not to be identified.

When Henry L. Stimson, secretary of war, was queried during his regular press conference last week about the part played by army men, he completely ducked the issue. "The OWI (Office of War Information) has made a statement on that, and I have nothing to add," was the comment he made in dismissing the subject.

Conveniences Attracted Jamaicans To States

New York Amsterdam News

Newcomers Call Themselves Pioneers in Real Democracy

New York, N.Y.

BY RAMONA LOWE

At the Big Oak Migratory Supply Camp they were putting up cabins, unloading bundles of clean straw for bedding, digging sewers and laying a pipe line in feverish preparation for the newest contingent of the 1500 Jamaican farm workers due in New Jersey. The Jamaicans who voluntarily came to this country through an arrangement with the British government to help eliminate our farm labor shortage have already saved South Jersey's important asparagus crop. After working hours on nearby farms or in canneries they were pitching in to help make the camp livable.

One, employed on the night shift at Seabrook's packing company, paused in his sewer digging and leaned on his shovel. "When we came the cabins were filthy," he said and his co-workers nodded in agreement. "Sanitation is still bad, very bad, but we will get it fixed up," he stated optimistically.

'We're Pioneers'

The cooks working over outdoor stoves, smoking with green wood, had a grave complaint too. "We did not know we were coming to pioneer, but that is what we are doing," the chief cook said. "There are only four of us to cook for 500 people and we don't have the things to prepare the food with for such a large group. We need three or four fires and big things to cook in." While he was talking one of the white heads of the camp had the two useless household stoves in the cooking area removed. A supply officer came to look in the pots and to ask for extra food to be prepared to feed the newcomers. The cooks who took their hardships good-naturedly were equal to the emergency.

The little wooden FSA cabins that have been such an improvement over previous housing of migratory workers were a disappointment to the Jamaicans. "They are too low," they said. "We are used to higher ceilings."

Why They Came

The reasons for their willingness to come to the States was described by one homesick young man who extolled the beauties of Jamaica "where everything is for the convenience." "We were small farmers," he said, "but we were dumping our bananas because we had no market for them. There is no export now."

"There is no shipping," explained another stalwart young man who had served as a seaman, had been torpedoed and was in London during the first blitzkrieg, "so we had to find other work."

"You see in Jamaica the rich hold the money tight in the fist like this," one of the farm workers said demonstrating with his hand. "Conditions there are terrible," a fourth speaker added. "The government is not interested in the poor man."

They're Enthusiastic

All were enthusiastic about their stay in this country although almost all of them had colds resulting from the change from the warmth of Jamaica to the chill of New Jersey. One who had just made the fifteen day journey from the island was rushed to the hospital with pneumonia.

Negro Bridgetonians were impressed with the dignity and intelligence of the Jamaicans. Dr. Leonard Scott, physician and only Negro doctor in Cumberland County commented, "They sound like college people."

A youthful taxi driver expressed the old fashioned sentiment of the town when he said, "I'd do anything for these Jamaicans. They've been around ever since they've been here and I have yet to hear one say a bad word."

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82
TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE

35f-1943

Citrus Growers' Crisis

Workers Want Better Treatment; Florida Faces Labor Shortage

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

SEP 1 1943

CLERMONT, Fla., Sept. 9—Refusal by Florida Citrus Growers to grant certain rights to colored migratory farm workers may cause one of the most critical periods of labor shortage this State has ever known. This was revealed in a speech by E. F. Debusk, State supervisor of emergency farm labor, to the tenth annual Lake County Citrus Growers' institute held here last week.

Industry needs 12,600,000 more workers which means that agriculture will have to do with less; migratory laborers will probably be slow in returning to Florida. Many have entered industry and won't come back; farmers cannot rely too heavily upon imported labor. These were some of the facts that the well-informed Debusk revealed.

WANT GOOD TREATMENT

"I have talked to workers in Tennessee, Kentucky, and other Southern States and find them willing to come to Florida to work if they are assured of good treatment. In order to attract labor to Florida we've got to give them more consideration than we have in the past."

Debusk stated in reporting on the possible use of Jamaicans that: "There are 9,400 Jamaicans in the United States now. They are good workers but because they expect the same privileges as white people it is doubtful whether they could be used satisfactorily below the Mason-Dixon line.

Citrus growers have joined in the fight to prevent the importation of farm laborers from that section to the North during the summer because of their fear that these workers might not return.

Debusk told the association that in many other sections of the country where women were being used on the farms. It was suggested that Florida farmers might investigate these possibilities.

800 Jamaica Farm Workers Refuse To Bow To Jim Crow

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

OCT 30 1943

MIAMI, Fla.—Nearly all of the 800 Jamaicans brought here to help harvest crops during the labor shortage have been returned to their native homes because they refused to sign an agreement which would have forced them to recognize jim-crow laws, it was learned here from a reliable source. In addition to being advised to abide by "jim-crow laws," the natives were warned of the death penalty given in rape cases.

THROWN INTO JAIL

Insulted by the rape warning and the segregated life planned for them, plus the fact that living and working conditions were not satisfactory, the Jamaican farm workers were thrown into jails when they refused to sign the agreement. They were kept in Florida jails until transportation was arranged for their return.

The agreement grew out of a conference between the United States and Jamaican governments with a view toward creating the most satisfactory working conditions possible for Jamaican workers imported to America to help relieve the wartime manpower shortage in certain vital industries."

ONLY 40 REMAIN IN THIS COUNTRY

The imported workers in Florida were [illegible] and were assigned to sugar cane fields.

Upon refusing to sign the agreement, the Jamaicans were turned over to the Labor Department and then taken to the Immigration and Naturalization offices, where they were later transferred to common jails of Miami, Tampa and the state penitentiary, while transportation was being arranged for their return to the islands.

All but 40 or 50 of the natives had been returned at the latest report.

The Question of the Week.

Should Negroes in the North Make a Conscious Effort to Migrate to the North?

Informer
Houston Texas
SEP 11 1943

YEA

The average Negro who was born and reared in the South developed a complex early in life. He had to take the back seat in any and everything for as long as he could remember. This sort of thing served to thwart his ambitions because he felt that he could do so much and no more. In order to give himself and his progeny a better chance to enjoy ordinary human rights he should go wherever such rights are guaranteed—even if he has to sacrifice some of his not-too many wordly possessions.

L. Ellis.

SEP 11 1943

—•—

I think that the young southern Negro should. A few old-timers such as I would have to stick it out down this way. I couldn't stand apartment house life in the North with its high rent, no yards, gardens and porches. I think that the younger set who are studying about what democracy is supposed to be, and who see the wide gap between theory and practice; should be in a location to enjoy a little more of it.

Sam King.

—•—SEP 11 1943

Any man who can get a good job, and strike a fairly good balance between income and living costs should go where he will be a little happier. If he has land, or other property in the South, he should try to put it in position to yield an income and hie himself away. Let those rugged individualists who feel that they can patiently, but surely improve matters stay here. Those who are worried lest the South might not be able to get along without them can remember the Bilboan effort to settle American Negroes in Africa. If two strikes have been called on a fellow before he gets to a court, to get certain jobs, to get a seat in a public conveyance—well anyhow, my answer is "yes."

Anon.

NAY

SEP 11 1943

Why should they? Each state in the Union of United States operates under the provisions of the Constitution. Every right in each amendment and each provision should be guaranteed to Negroes and all citizens no matter where they may live. It would be foolish for Negroes in the South to sack up and go off to the North in search of the democracy that their various public institutions are supposed to insure. As I see it we should expect and continuously work to get the rights which Negroes in any other part of the country enjoy.

A. Spivey,

Spivey Cleaners,

2309 Gray, Houston, Texas.

SEP 11 1943—

That's the trouble now—running away from our problems. The South does not belong to any one racial group, although there are a few people who think otherwise. If Negroes, who suffer discrimination most of all, should leave the South they would not only give the impression that it is hopeless for them to try to live in some parts of this "free" country.

James Anderson.

SEP 11 1943

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No, but this is what we should do: Continuously organize labor, buy properly, establish businesses and otherwise entrench ourselves economically. The Negro in the North does get a fairer share of democracy, but the North can't accommodate the South's population, and we should stay here and dig in as best we can.

F. Spears.

'Black Paper' Tells Jamaicans They Will Face Discrimination In Dixie

Defender Chicago, Ill

By HARRY McALPIN
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON.—The State Department has issued "white papers" on various incidents and situations involving the foreign relations of this country and others. This is a story of a "black paper" unearthed by the Defender, affecting the welfare of more than 10,000 Jamaicans imported to this country to help solve the farm labor problem.

This "black paper," a communication to the Jamaican workers from Herbert G. McDonald, liaison officer representing the Jamaican government, tells of the repeal of the various protective clauses of the contract under which the Jamaicans were induced to come to this country, assigns them to work in the South, tells them of the discriminations they will face and warns them that their conduct will be closely watched. They are also advised that their contracts may be cancelled for misconduct or "indiscipline," or for no reason at all—even bad weather.

Sent South

Through June, 1943, Jamaicans were assigned to states in the North and West only. These states were Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, and Idaho. The reason given was that they were not accustomed to discrimination current in the South. Now they are to be sent to Florida to work in the sugar cane fields.

Here is the communication signed by Mr. McDonald, dated September 30, which speaks for itself:

"I have just returned from a short visit to Jamaica where your well being and future stay in the United States was discussed by representatives of the two governments. The question was further fully discussed by elected and nominated members.

"All workers of good character and working efficiently who wish to remain in the United States are to be given opportunity. Therefore, you are asked to go to Florida, which is nearer to Jamaica and is warm in the winter.

"Work will be confined to sugar cane. Conditions and working conditions, housing, etc., have been investigated and found satisfactory. As a general rule, all work in Florida is given out on piece-work basis. You will be housed in groups of not less than 50; and arrangements are being made for you all to be fed in camp as facilities for feeding yourselves elsewhere are not available."

(Editor's note: This violates that section of the contract which provides that "workers shall not be required to purchase goods or services for their personal consumption or use at any sources not of their choice." It opens the way for the exploiting and unscrupulous plantation owners to make "deductions" from the lawful pay due these workers.)

Cites Rape Punishment

"Distinction is made in Florida with colored people, and you must be careful and endeavor to help the position, as by your conduct you will be judged.

"It is well to tell you for the sake of general information that there is a law in many southern states, including Florida, which makes rape punishable by death. This, of course is a very serious offense anywhere but there it is viewed even more seriously.

"There will be ample opportunity for you to make friends with the colored people as every city and town has its colored section. You will be free to purchase wherever you wish, but there are certain places of amusement, restaurants and bars where you will not be allowed.

"It has been decided that no wives can be sent from Jamaica.

Contract Differs

"You will be asked to sign a new contract different from the old in the following respects:

"1. It will afford you employment for the winter months at least.

"2. Misconduct and 'indiscipline' clause has been added which gives the United States government the right to terminate the contract if the worker misconducts himself.

"3. The United States government can terminate the contract with one month's notice in event of any fundamental change in the war situation or any other circumstances including any sudden changes in the weather, rendering continued employment of the worker unnecessary.

(Editor's note: The old contract provided that the workers shall be employed for at least 75 per cent of the periods of employment, exclusive of Sundays or one other day in each seven, specified in their contracts with the U. S. government.)

"4. The word 'Sunday' has been taken out so that your one day of rest in seven is not necessarily Sunday.

"5. Where meals are provided in camp and I AM SATISFIED they are all right, you will be REQUIRED to eat there.

"6. After you have signed the contract, it will be witnessed by someone appointed by me who must satisfy himself that you understand what you are signing.

"There is a slight possibility that the success of the Florida venture might well influence any future recruitment in Jamaica; and you are asked to bear this in mind as I am sure you would not be wishful of doing anything to hurt the chances of your fellow-men back home."

Thus endeth the "black paper"!

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

35 f-1943

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Bahamians Recruited For Farms In Florida

NASSAU, Bahamas— (AP) —Recruiting of Bahamian workers for Florida farms has begun here under terms of an agreement between the colonial government and the United States Department of Agriculture.

Negro laborers will be transported to Florida at the expense of the colonial government for an indefinite term of probably 10 months or more. They will be paid prevailing wages, with the minimum 30 cents an hour.

(At West Palm Beach it was said 32 Everglades farmers had signed contracts to employ 3,111 workers who will be housed in army tents at Negro migratory camps or in private quarters in the Lake Okeechobee area. The first groups are expected next week.)

All workers must pass a medical test. Men and women are to be recruited, and children 18 years old or over may accompany their parents. Employment is guaranteed for 75 per cent of the period of the contract.

Workers will be provided with food at a cost not to exceed 75 cents a day, and each worker will be required to remit 75 cents for each working day either for a family allowance or if he has no dependents to a postoffice savings account in the colony.

Age-Herald

Birmingham, Ala

BAHAMANS FLY TO FLORIDA FARMS

MIAMI, Fla., April 11—(AP)—The vanguard of the first group of Bahamian Negro farm laborers arrived Sunday night by chartered plane from Nassau, for work on Florida's farms.

Twenty-one workers, men and women, comprised the initial batch of arrivals.

This is believed to be the first time that farm labor has ever been moved by aircraft.

The first group of 225 recruits will be flown from Nassau to Miami by special Pan American Airways planes, chartered by the Bahamian government.

Approximately 6,000 workers are expected to arrive from the Bahamas, by various means.

The laborers were recruited as part of the government's effort to relieve the farm labor shortage and increase the production of food.

The recruits will be rushed by bus Sunday night to the migratory labor camp at Pahokee and are expected to report for work in the fields Monday morning.

New York Times
New York, N. Y

IMPORTED LABOR IN FLORIDA

Interest and Doubt Are Mingled in South as First Bahamians Begin Harvest

APR 18 1943

By HARRY

LAKELAND, Fla., April 17—The South is watching with considerable interest and some doubt the experiment which got under way in Florida's rich Everglades this week as the first of several thousand Negroes from the Bahama Islands began harvesting thousands of acres of vegetables.

It is believed by some Florida growers outside the Everglades area that the wholesale importation of Bahamian Negroes will prove unsatisfactory because the island Negroes are unfamiliar with Florida agricultural methods, do not get along in the most harmonious manner with Florida Negroes and are likely to lose much of their enthusiasm as soon as the undertaking has passed the novelty stage.

APR 18 1943

But the manpower shortage in South Florida has become so acute that something drastic had to be done, so the Federal Government stepped in to lend a hand through the Farm Security Administration, which obtained the cooperation of the Duke of Windsor in recruiting the workers from Nassau.

The plan is to import 8,000 Negroes, at least 3,000 from the Bahamas, the others probably from Jamaica. The first of the Bahamians arrived at Miami in transport planes a few days ago. A considerable number of them were zoot-suited young fellows excited by the adventure into a new environment. There was a semi-festive atmosphere as they were moved on to farming centers to begin picking beans hurried to maturity during recent days by the warm Spring sun.

APR 18 1943

Relief for Growers

The arrival of the Bahamians relieved much anxiety among Everglades growers, for they lost thousands of acres of young plants when subfreezing weather visited that section two months ago and they had to plant again to get the present crop, which appeared endangered for lack of labor.

Only a few weeks will be required to complete the harvest, but there is much other agricultural work to be done afterward, so the imported laborers will be kept in Florida for six months or longer or moved northward if the experiment proves successful.

Many of the workers will live in tents set up in preparation for their arrival. Some have been quartered in shacks. They are sleeping on Army cots and eating Army rations from Army kitchens. Close supervision will be maintained over them to hasten their orientation to the field work and to make sure that they do not have too much opportunity to get into trouble with Florida Negroes at "juke joints" during their hours of leisure after working in the fields.

APR 18 1943

DUKE OF WINDSOR



Associated Press

He aided in recruiting labor to help harvest Florida crops.

APR 18 1943

Time
Chicago, Illinois
RACES

Florida's Bahamians

APR 26 1943

On the flat, swampy farms along the eastern shore of Florida's Lake Okeechobee, where the rich, black muck sometimes goes as deep as 20 feet, and the long green beans ripen 45 days after planting, the first group of Bahamian Negroes brought to the U.S. in World War II went to work last week.

APR 26 1943

To bring them over from their tropical islands 200 miles out in the Atlantic, the Farm Security Administration set up an air ferry service. The first two groups of 21, some dressed in dungarees, some in zoot suits, coasted in on Pan-Am Clippers. Then came a batch of 60 in a huge Army transport. Few days later, 76 arrived by boat; by week's end 850 Bahamians were on their knees, pushing hampers between the endless rows of bean vines.

War has cut off the Bahamas' tourist trade; most defense installations are finished. After months of unemployment, a minimum of 30¢ an hour—the prevailing rate—in the Florida vegetable fields looked mighty good to Bahamians. Florida planters, worrying about getting beans, tomatoes and sugar cane harvested, were equally delighted. Ever since last fall they had clamored for permission to import foreign labor. The War Manpower Commission turned them down, fearing a flood of cheap labor, finally okayed the plan. In the Bahamas, the Duke of Windsor did all he could to help.

APR 26 1943

Contracts call for the importation of 6,000 Bahamians; soon some 10,000 more workers will come from Jamaica.

Will Work On Farms In Florida

Kansas City Mo.

APR 2 1943

Set Standards For Islanders' Wages, Health

APR 2 1943

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Both the Negroes from the Bahamas and our country's own farm labor force are protected by the agreement under which the islanders will be brought into the United States to help relieve the farm labor shortage in Florida and adjoining states, Sec. of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard pointed out this week.

Under the agreement between the government of the Bahama Islands and the U. S. Department of Agriculture which was signed last week, as many as 5,000 Bahamas workers, over 18 years old, may be brought here to help push our wartime food production. Provisions of the agreement assure minimum standards of working conditions, and the same protection accorded other groups by the President's Executive Order No. 8802 barring discrimination against workers in war jobs.

PROVISIONS APR 2 1943

Other provisions of the agreement are: (1) that Bahamans will not be employed to displace other workers, or to reduce previously established wage rates; (2) that the island workers will be paid the prevailing wage in the area for the kind of labor performed with a minimum of 30 cents an hour, or the piece rate equivalent; only part of their wages will be paid them directly, however, the remainder will go to their families and into a savings fund; and (3) that the islanders will be housed in camps maintained by the department of agriculture, or in other government approved quarters.

APR 2 1943

The agreement also assures employment for three fourths of the work contract period. A daily subsistence of $3 will be provided by the department, for each day they are unemployed during the 75 per cent period for which employment is guaranteed. The department will also provide subsistence to the workers in case of unemployment during the remaining 25 per cent period on the same basis as it is made available to other agricultural workers in the migratory labor camps.

PASS TESTS APR 2 1943

As a precautionary health measure, the Bahamans will be required to pass a physical examination supervised by U. S. health authorities; they will also have the same legal protection afforded other agricultural workers as to occupational diseases and accidents.

APR 2 1943

Department officials will go to the Bahamas immediately to begin recruiting workers as the U. S. Employment service reports that an adequate supply of labor is not available to meet the needs of bean and cane growers in southern Florida.

This is the second agreement for the employment of agricultural workers from Mexico in which the United States government has been in southwestern states has been in progress since last August under an agreement between the Mexican and United States govern-

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82


Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky
APR 13 1943
APR 13 1943
APR 13 1943

AP Wirephoto.

THE FIRST GROUP OF BAHAMIAN WORKERS to reach Florida, vanguard of a land army of 6,000, is served a late night meal in the mess hall of the Everglades camp near Pahokee. The Bahamians will help harvest Florida's bumper bean crop.

IMPORTING LABORERS

To relieve the shortage of farm workers, the United States is recruiting 5,000 Bahaman Negroes, including 2,000 females, and is expected to use a maximum of 50,000 Mexican agricultural laborers.

The Bahama Negroes will work in southern Florida for the present, harvesting the bean crop and later will be transferred to other areas as crops come in. They will be housed in camps operated by the Federal Security Administration. The first contingent of these workers is probably in the United States at this time.

In the Southwest, something more than 1,000 Maxican workers will be brought in weekly. Some of them will be used to maintain railway rights-of-way and others will probably be utilized for farm work.

Organized labor has expressed its opposition to the importation of foreign laborers until it is clearly shown that domestic labor is not available. Spokesmen contend that domestic labor is available but that wages, working hours and living conditions are not such as to atttract Ameerican workers.

As we understand the present experiment, the laborers will be temporarily permitted to reside in the United States but when the need for their labor passes, they will be returned to their country. There is, so far as we know, no intention to permanently settle these foreign workers in the United States.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Windsor Calls On Bahamans In N. J. Fields

MAY 15 1943

Associated Press Staff Writer

Swedesboro, N. J., May 14.—Gay and chatty, the Duke of Windsor motored into the heart of south Jersey's rich farm belt today, spent two hours in shacks and in the fields talking man-to-man with migratory workers from the Bahamas, nad then set out for New York again with a case of asparagus—and a new knowledge about juke boxes.

MAY 15 1943

The governor gneeral of the Bahama Islands came ti inspect the Farm Security Administration's cmap for Negro islanders, imported to ease the farm labor shortage. He lunched in the cmap's dinnig hall, nad while there he walked up to a juke box and said:

"What's this, a stove?"

"That's what we call a juke box," and FSA aide explained.

"Ah!" Britain's former King smiled. "So that's what they look like."

MAY 15 1943

Later he visited the 25-acre farm of Sonia Swan, an opera singer. who employs 15 Bahamans in her asparagus beds. He sadi he planned to remain in the United States until the end of the month.

Jacksonville, Fla. Journal
April 2, 1943

BAHAMA LABOR RECRUITED FOR FLORIDA FARMS

Negroes May Stay in State Ten Months Or More

NASSAU, Bahamas, April 2—(AP)—Recruiting of Bahamian workers for Florida farms has begun here under terms of an agreement between the Colonial government and the United States Department of Agriculture.

Negro farm laborers will be transported to Florida at the expense of the Colonial government for an indefinite term of probably 10 months or more. They will be paid prevailing wages, with the minimum 30 cents an hour.

(At West Palm Beach it was said that 32 Everglades farmers had signed contracts for the employment of 3,111 workers who will be housed in army tents at negro migratory camps or in private quarters in the Lake Okeechobee area. The first groups are expected next week..

All workers must pass a medical test. Men and women are to be recruited, and children 18 years old or over may accompany their parents. Employment is guaranteed for 75 per cent of the period of the contract.

Workers will be provided with food at a cost not to exceed 75 cents a day, and each worker will be required to remit 75 cents for each working day either as a family allowance or if he has no dependents to a postoffice savings account in the colony.

No collections or deductions from wages may be made for fees, commissions or any other purpose except debts voluntarily entered into.

Bahama Negroes Help the Growers

The government finally allowed the hiring and importing of Bahama negroes to help gather the greatest crops the Okeechobee area has ever had.

Some 5,000 men have been brought into the lake area in the past two weeks. A dispatch from that section Friday said that growers had bid up to $1.10 a hamper for bean pickers because they needed the beans picked and hoped to get them in on the high price tide; that price is higher than the growers have received in some years for whole hampers of the beans.

Birmingham, Ala., News
May 26, 1943

Laborers Prove Capable

UPPER DARBY, Pa.—(AP)—The West Indian laborers imported to work on Eastern farms are proving "eager to learn, prodigious workers and thoroughly capable," J. H. Wood, director of the Maine-through-Maryland region of the Farm Security Administration, said Wednesday.

Wood said the Jamaicans and Bahamans "materially eased" the labor shortage, particularly in vegetable growing areas of New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland. Others are employed in Pennsylvania and Connecticut.

Nearly 2,500 of the Negro workers already have arrived, the director said, adding that the number may reach 10,000 by the end of Summer.

Chicago Defender
MAY 22 1943

Jamaicans Riot, Lashed In Hold Of 'Slave Ship'

(Special to The Defender)

NEW ORLEANS, La.—Report has leaked out here of time, exploited workers.

inhuman treatment accorded crowded into a ship built to ac-

the agricultural workers be- commodate 1900 in a revival of the

ing imported to America from slave-trader techniques of the 17th

Jamaica under the agreement century. Half way across, accord-

tered into by the government with water ran out. The natives became

the British government to relieve the artificial shortage of farm labor created by the insistence of the cotton and tobacco growers of the South in holding on to their part- families in escrow with the govern- ment of the islands. But their lives, which are provided no safeguards in the agreement, are in jeopardy.

Four thousand Jamaicans were

35f-1943

Outlining Migrant Worker Program Highlights Visit of National Supervisor

Miami, Fla, Herald
February 22, 1943

DEVELOPING new leaders within the migrant group was one phase of the program outlined for migrant workers by Miss Edith E. Lowry, New York, national migrant supervisor and eastern migrant supervisor, Home Missions Council of North America, when she was in Miami over the week-end.

The Council represents most of the protestant groups and aids the migrant in educational and spiritual channels as well as promotes a well rounded community program.

Miss Studley received her training at Boston at the Children's hospital and her duties here revolve around home nursing and teaching the workers to help themselves. She conducts a daily program for the negro camps including a hot luncheon at noon time and two day programs during the week in the white camp.

Miss Bartholomew, who received her master's degree at Andover Newton Theological school, Boston, works largely with children. Nursery schools are established in the two negro camps providing games, handwork, story telling hours, sewing, etc.

The two field workers will be here until the end of the migratory season in April and then go to North Carolina, and later to New York state for the summer. In the fall, the trek starts southward again from New Jersey. Workers began a "pioneering" program here last year and this year are working with more than 2,000 migrants. The mobile camp has a capacity for 400, with excellent facilities provided.

Miss Lowry reports that in the Pahokee, Belle Glade and Canal Point area they have a white minister and a parish of more than 400. Mrs. Larry Van Ronk is supervisor for the area. Maintained in the advanced program are two negro preachers, two negro nurses and a new nursery with 127 children enrolled at 25 cents a day for the first child, and 15 cents for each additional child.

She finds that wherever such a program is attempted, the main problem is community attitude.

Miss Lowry was here on an inspection tour of the Redland and Homestead migratory camps and to discuss plans for the next migrant season here with Miss Agnes Studley, R. N., and Miss Janet Bartholomew, field workers in the Homestead area.

Besides developing leaders, the program will include the addition of a colored minister to the staff and a more concentrated religious program. Miss Lowry hopes that colored churches will help in organizing the leaders and that the white churches will provide nurses and religious education for those especially outside the Farm Security Administration camps.

There are two such camps for colored workers in the Homestead area and one white camp.

Residents are prejudiced. They resent the crowding of schools, hospitals and even the churches. The migrants are considered "outsiders." She believes in discouraging surplus migration but that needed migration must be systematized.

Miss Lowry has been interested in her field work since 1927, was graduated from Wellesley. Five years ago, she was here with the Florida Chain of Missionary Assemblies, speaking on migrants, with emphasis on the problems of the Middle West sharecroppers.



Discussing plans for the next migrant season this past weekend were Miss Janet Bartholomew, field worker; Miss Edith E. Lowry, national migrant supervisor for Home Missions Council of North America, and Miss Agnes Studley, another Homestead area field worker.

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

Duke Praises Work of Bahamans Brought Here to Help on Farms

On Visit to Group in Jersey He Says They Are Aiding War Effort—Has Lunch in Tent—Cuts Asparagus

MAY 15 1943

Special to THE

SWEDESBORO, N. J., May 14— The Duke of Windsor learned to cut asparagus and mistook a juke box for a stove today during a flying visit to 214 of his constituents, Bahaman Negroes who were brought to this Southern New Jersey area to help relieve the farm labor shortage.

Tramping over the ten acre labor camp of the Farm Security Administration three miles south of here, the Duke inspected every nook and cranny of the place, including the red one-room wooden houses the Bahaman workers live in, the big canvas mess tent, the kitchen, the laundry shack and the trailer equipped as a small clinic. He laughed and joked with the workers and asked questions so fast they had difficulty answering him.

MAY 15 1943

In the mess tent, where he had luncheon, an FSA aide pointed out a big boxlike structure in the center of the tent and asked if he wished to see it. Moving toward it, the Duke asked "what is it—a stove?" It started to play under the impulse of a nickel but a moment later it became disconnected and the Duke turned to his lunch. The lunch, served by two Bahaman women in shiny, white silk dresses, consisted of sliced chicken sandwiches, fruit salad, raisin cookies and milk or tea. The Duke took tea and poured milk from a can into it.

MAY 15 1943

Each Much Chicken on Islands

Later in commenting on food shortages in the islands of which he is Governor, he said, "We eat so much chicken, we're ready to grow wings."

At his heels during the three-hour visit trooped several hundred Swedesboro school children who were given a part holiday to see the former King of England. Laughing and yelling, they almost crowded out the reticent Negroes, who wore towels and handkerchiefs over their heads as protection against the cold.

MAY 15 1943

"they don't have s houses."

Workers may be sent to this cold and neither am I," said the Duke, later in the season into the Hudson Valley and Western New York Jr. of Fort Jay, N. Y., who is in charge of the Army's school for bakers and cooks and Staff Sergeant Fred Rhors, who is instructors in cooking and group, he asked, "Do you get any meat?" Several answered, "On some days." Laughing, the Governor commented to give the workers more vege- tables, but the sergeant and FSA can't expect it every day."

MAY 15 1943

"They're not used to houses." He conferred in the camp kitchen with Major Charles C. Stewart, the Duke, "we have the same trouble at home.

MAY 15 1943

Old Sergeant Rhors

MAY 15 1943

Appreciation for the Duke Service Command, said the workers "were very keeping the Bahamans sanitation.

MAY 15 1943

When he saw the bathing facilities. The Duke told the workers that it might be difficult to get tables, but the workers back home because aids said all they wanted was rice

Says He Is "Getting Old"

Striding over the muddy fields on the near-by farm of George Howard, the Duke cut some stalks of asparagus under the tutelage of several of his people. Asked if he needed help, he replied, "No, I'm getting old but I still have strength enough to do this."

On the 125-acre farm of Sonja Swan, New York opera singer, he heard his first complaint. One Bahaman youth said he thought he might be sent to Maryland and didn't wan to go. The Governor of the Bahamas said the matter was "out of my hands" and told the boy that "you have a great opportunity to help win the war."

Miss Swan presented a box of asparagus and a knife used to cut the vegetable to the Duke.

Then, wishing the workers "good luck," saying he was proud that his islands were able to "supplement the manpower shortage in America," and expressing appreciation for the care given his people, he left for New York where he has been visiting with the American-born duchess.

MAY 15 1943

During an interview, he said he "probably would" see President Roosevelt during his stay here, but he did not know whether he would see Prime Minister Churchill who now is in Washington.

The Duke motored here from New York with FSA officials. The party, which included Terrance McGrath of the Bahamas Development Board and J. H. Wood, director of the FSA Maine-to-Maryland region, was escorted from the Holland Tunnel to the area by a detail of New Jersey State Police.

Tampa, Fla., Tribune
June 20, 1943

Importing Laborers.

To relieve the shortage of farm workers, the United States is recruiting 5,000 Bahaman Negroes, including 2,000 females, and is expected to use a maximum of 50,000 Mexican agricultural laborers.

The Bahama Negroes will work in southern Florida for the present, harvesting the bean crop and later will be transferred to other areas as crops come in. They will be housed in camps operated by the Federal Security Administration. The first contingent of these workers is probably in the United States at this time.

In the southwest, something more than 1,000 Mexican workers will be brought in weekly. Some of them will be used to maintain railway rights-of-way and others will probably be utilized for farm work.

Organized labor has expressed its opposition to the importation of foreign laborers until it is clearly shown that domestic labor is not available. Spokesmen contend that domestic labor is available but that wages, working hours and living conditions aren't such as to attract American workers.

As we understand the present experiment, the laborers will be temporarily permitted to reside in the United States but when the need for their labor passes, they will be returned to their own country. There is, so far as we know, no intention to permanently settle these foreign workers in the United States.

Clewiston Sugar Co. Protests Labor Move

CLEWISTON, June 19.—(AP)—Clarence R. Bitting, president of the United States Sugar Corp., today protested the removal of 250 Bahamian Negro workers from the company's fields in the Everglades to farms in other states.

Bitting made public a telegram to Chester C. Davis, war food administrator, in which he said "such arbitrary withdrawal of labor has affected our farming operations to such extent that our contribution to the vital food requirements of the nation has been hampered to an alarming extent."

Tampa, Fla., Tribune
June 20, 1943

Bahamian Laborers Will Leave Florida Because of Contract

WEST PALM BEACH, June 19—(AP)—Farm Security Adminsitration officials said today that Bahamian farm laborers would be moved in 10 days from Everglades cane fields of the United States Sugar corporation in accordance with a labor supply contract.

Bahamian Negroes were brought to Florida under an agreement that provided their use for harvesting. A number of workers were used during the sugar harvest, and the corporation is employing 250 now to cultivate cane.

"Under present policy this office must send the workers where they are needed to harvest crops," said Ed Shivers, assistant chief of the FSA migratory labor division in South Florida. "We have no discretion in the matter and any change of policy must be made in Washington."

Clarence R. Bitting, president of the sugar company, protested the removal of the workers from the cane fields, declaring that "such arbitrary withdrawal of labor has affected our farming operations to "an alarming extent."

PM
New York, N. Y.

They Have Never Known Race Discrimination; Don't Expect It in U. S.

Husky Jamaican farmhands by the hundreds are moving into the East to help with the farm labor emergency—and a spokesman for the Jamaica government warned farmers today not to treat them with racial discrimination.

"They're not used to it," he said. "They didn't come to the United States expecting it."

Hundreds of Jamaicans have landed in the U. S. within the last 10 days. About 500 already are at work on New Jersey farms, not far from New York.

P. St. Ledger Bacquie, Jamaica Island government representative, came with them on the 2000-mile trip and lives with them at the Farm Security Administration camp at Bridgeton, N. J.

MAY 21 1943

Bacquie appealed to U. S. citizens in general, and farmers in particular, to "treat these men like human beings."

"Farmers will get the best out of them that way," he said.

The Jamaicans were recruited from the hills of their island, have not been in contact with city life—and have not known racial prejudice, he said.

"They are orderly, industrious—and as honest as you can find."

Bacquie asked farmers to try to keep the Jamaicans supplied with reading matter—particularly religious reading matter. Most of them attend the Church of England, the mother church of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the U. S.

By agreement between the U. S. and Jamaican governments, the Jamaicans must be housed in groups of 50, each with its own straw boss and native cook.

One reason for this is the unusual diet to which the workers are accustomed—vast quantities of fish and rice prepared in ways almost unknown in the U. S.

From the FSA camp at Bridgeton, groups of Jamaicans set out each morning to work on farms.

MAY 21 1943

Some work for individual farmers; others for the vast Seabrook Farms in southern Jersey.

Birmingham, Ala., News

Florida Guard Called To Quiet Bahamans

HASTINGS, Fla.—(AP)—Two companies of the Florida State Guard were called here Thursday to assist in maintaining order following a disturbance Wednesday night at a camp housing Bahaman Negro workers.

Constable Archie Greene said two Bahamans were shot and about 100 were arrested. Between 400 and 500 participated, he said, but all was quiet Thursday, and most of the Bahamans were back at work in the fields.

Greene said he did not know the cause of the disorder but said the camp foreman called for help when the Negroes began throwing milk bottles. Neither of those shot was seriously injured, Greene said.

At St. Augustine, Adjt. Gen. Vivian Collins said he was informed the disorder was purely a squabble among the Bahamans.

The adjutant general had no information as to the cause of the disturbance. He said the companies would remain on the scene for the present.

The Bahamans were from a contingent of several thousand who have been brought into the United States to help with the critical farm labor situation.

The Bahamans are quartered here in a camp under government supervision.

Portsmouth, Va., [illegible]
July 2, 1943

Negroes Arrive For Farm Work

Between 250 and 300 Bahaman Negroes, all males, arrived in Portsmouth by SAL Ry. early today en route somewhere in Virginia" so far as they knew to engage in "agricultural pursuit".

Their real destination was Eastern Shore of Virginia to dig Irish potatoes. The Shore has a great and labor

WMC to Investigate Florida Migration

CAMDEN, N. J., Aug. 7.—(U.P.)—War Manpower Commission officials said today they would investigate the migration of 438 Florida Negro farm workers to the Campbell Soup Company plant here after Florida's Governor Spes-

sard L. Holland made a formal complaint that the state was being robbed of essential labor.

The workers arrived here last Sunday on a special train through arrangement with Office of Defense Transportation officials.

Bean Pickers Get Free Housing

$6-$8 Day Possible For Negro Workers

Free housing facilities will be provided Negro bean pickers who will help harvest the bean crop by their parents.

At the 7,000 acres Applicants from Davidson County, Tenn., to contain City, Tenn., were requested to consult W. R. yesterday by W. Melton, U. S. Employment Service it was announced local office, 104 Second Avenue, North of the Manager of the Employment Service-workers in other counties were asked to see their county agent.

An average wage of $6 to $8 a day, Miller stated, and pointed out that the Agricultural Extension Service will pay transportation and expense both ways, provided the picker stay for the duration of the harvest season, which is approximately eight weeks. Applicants are required only to take their rations, books, blankets and cooking utensils.

Applicants must be 18 years of age or over unless accompanied by their parents.

35f-1943
New Republic
New York, N. Y.

Verboten—To Look for a Job

DESPITE A LAW passed by Congress to freeze farm workers in the counties where they have established residence, Negro and white farm workers are leaving the South in ever increasing numbers. A migration is under way which may even surpass the exodus to the industrial centers of the North and East which took place during the First World War.

The migration of farm labor is most advanced in southeastern Missouri, where cotton farming is largely mechanized. In the seven cotton-growing counties that make up the Missouri boot-heel, there were, prior to 1942, at least twice as many farm workers as could be employed four to six months a year. The average length of employment was 125 days at $1.25 a day. Disregarding the oversupply of labor in these areas, cotton-plantation owners are doing all they can to stop the northward flow of workers. They fear that a depletion of the ranks of cotton pickers might force them to pay higher wages.

Local and state police forces in Missouri have been used to stop the migration. Truck drivers, hired to transport workers, have been arrested. Plantation owners in Arkansas have tried to keep their tenants from leaving by making them sign contracts which bind them to the land for the duration of the war. Recalcitrants face eviction and loss of their share of the 1943 crop. Where these "yellow-dog" contracts fail, local draft boards have been impressed into service. Plantation owners promise deferment to farmers willing to remain and work for low wages. Rationing boards also coöperate by refusing to issue gasoline and tires.

These conditions may be laid directly to congressional action. Originally Congress had appropriated $26,000,000 to supply farm labor in areas of manpower shortage. But these measures were defeated by the provisions of the Pace Amendment, which forbids the transportation of farm workers without the consent of the local county agents of the Agriculture Extension Service, in whose hands the administration of the farm-labor supply now rests. Plans developed in the Department of Agriculture for the transfer of 350,000 farm workers have been abandoned. At present the only farm labor the government is able to furnish is imported from Mexico, the West Indies and Central America. This restriction will therefore increase the oversupply of labor in the South.

Perhaps the worst effect of the Pace Amendment is the incentive it has given to plantation owners to lower the prevailing wage rate of 30 cents an hour for 10 hours of work set originally by the Farm Security Administration. A plantation owner near Clarksdale, Mississippi, who failed to obtain workers at the rate of $2 for a fourteen-hour day applied to the War Department for the use of Italian prisoners from a nearby internment camp. Sixty prisoners were sent to the plantation at the army rate of 80 cents a day. The Southern Tenant Farmers' Union protested this use of war prisoners, but while the union has received assurances that prisoners will not be used to compete with free native labor, so long as no steps are taken to correct the basic cause of useless labor congestion, we may expect that plantation owners will attempt to make further inroads on the standard of living in the South.

Imported Jamaican Workers Warned Against "Rape" Idea

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

Special

MIAMI—Jamaican farm workers imported to this country to aid in the war on fascism have had the supreme insult of their lives hurled into their faces. They have been asked to accept the substandard status of jimcrowed residents in order to work in this state. They have, in fact, been advised by a representative of their government that they should "endeavor to be careful and help the position (jimcro)". The reward held out to them as compensation for this "cooperation" is that if the "Florida venture" is successful, more Jamaicans will have the glorious opportunity to come and be jimcrowed as they work.

The workers' attention was called to the fact that rape is punishable by death in Floria, as if these men would necessarily find the women with whom they came in contact—if at all—unresistingly attractive. They were advised to seek friends among the "coloured" residents of whatever residents of whatever town they should [illegible] to find themselves, because every town has a "coloured" section. The men were advised that they could bring no wives from Jamaica, which is an open invitation to illicit licentiousness.

It should be mentioned that these workers are being transplanted here from other areas because of the warm winter climate. They have been assured that housing, feeding and wages have been investigated and found satisfactory (that is as satisfactory as one can be while being jimcrowed.—Ed.)

After this revolting first lesson from the South's segregation the workers were asked to sign a contract (?) which differed from their previous agreement in the following respects:

1. *It will afford you employment for the winter months at least.*

2. *A "Misconduct and Indiscipline" clause has been added which gives the United States Government the right to terminate the contract if a worker misconducts himself.*

3. *The United States Government can terminate the contract with one month's notice in the event of any fundamental change in the war situation or of the occurrence of any other circumstnces (including any sudden change in the weather), rendering the continued employment of the worker no longer necessary.*

4. *The word "Sunday" has been taken out so that your day of rest is one day in seven, not necessarily Sunday.*

5. *Where meals are provided in Camp, and I am satisfied that they are alright, you will be required to eat there.*

6. *After you have signed the new contract, it shall be [illegible] by someone appointed by me who must satisfy himself that you understand what you are signing.*

(Signed)
Herbert G. Macdonald,
Liaison Office Representing
The Jamaican Government.

Isn't that a classic example of he practical application of the our freedoms?

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Asks F. D. Act To Put Clamp On Migration

Suggests Action as Means Of Curbing Riots, Other Disorders in Work Centers

(Special to The Amsterdam News)

WASHINGTON—Attorney General Francis Biddle has recommended that President Franklin D. Roosevelt act to halt the migration of Negro workers in defense plants in an effort to prevent further racial disturbances such as the recent riots in Harlem, Detroit, Beaumont, Mobile, Los Angeles and other centers where the overcrowded conditions may cause a sudden flare-up, it was reported from an authoritative source this week.

According to the report, agents of the Department of Justice have been making surveys in Detroit, where the worst disturbance occurred, and at the conclusion of the survey, sent a report to the White House recommending as point number one, that "wherever possible, the migration of Negroes to certain communities which cannot absorb them for various reasons." (The report did not mention if the same recommendations applied to white workers.)

Other Recommendations

Other points that were recommended in the report, were said to be:

Closer co-operation between the War Department, the attorney general and local officials to expedite the sending of troops into a troubled area.

That the members of city police forces be given wider deferments as a solution to the problem of inexperienced personnel.

Another proposal, the report states, is that the President direct the establishment of an inter-departmental committee to deal with racial problems.

Attention will also be given to the advisability of building more housing and recreational facilities particularly in Detroit for Negroes, and in such other places as these material elements tend to provoke racial tension.

Chicago Bee
HOOSIERS MOB 25 JAMAICANS
Chicago, Illinois,

MARTINSVILLE, Ind., Aug. 19. (AP)—The disorderly crowd was estimated by observers as numbering "a thousand or so." Martinsville has a population of approximately [illegible]

"We just nipped it in the bud, and it's all over now," said St. John, who added that there was no fighting."

Sheriffs' deputies, city, and police were called in to the workers until they could be removed from the hostile community.

The disorderly crowd was estimated by observers as numbering "a thousand or so." Martinsville has a population of approximately [illegible]

Sheriff Omar

White Soldier Tells Why Workers Are Moving North

Afro-American

One Man Bosses Public Schools; Kids in School Are Made into Servants

By MABLE ALSTON

WASHINGTON

"If colored people leave the South, we poor whites who think don't blame them."

The speaker was a young white aviation cadet who perked his ears as I was attempting to interview a young woman migrant in Union Station.

Seeing her sitting practically alone on a bench in the busy waiting room surrounded by her makeshift luggage, I hesitated to question her because of the close proximity of this young white man who I knew instinctively was a Southerner.

"Why did you leave the South?" I asked and was suprised when this cadet, noting her reluctance to answer, cut in.

"Ask Me, Lady"

"Why don't you ask me, lady?" he said, "I can tell you better than she can." He then began to relate his own experiences in the South which gave an insight into what the new generation of young whites is thinking.

He said: "The reason colored people are leaving the South and rightly so, is because the Southern white people won't give them decent jobs or places to live.

"I know what I am talking about because I was born and reared in Alabama and I have seen sights that often have made me want to wring a few necks. A colored girl, just a mere child, must clean three or four houses in order to make a few dollars a week."

Owns Public School

He pointed out that in his hometown one white man owned the one-room school shack that housed 150 youngsters and he opened and closed it anytime he wanted to. If houseworkers or farmhands were needed the school was closed.

"It really makes my blood boil to see how colored soldiers are mistreated. They can not even buy food in most Southern establishments and at night I have seen them run like rabbits for fear of being shot or accused of crimes they do not commit.

He continued: "I guess you wonder why I have never tried to do anything about it, well in my own way I am, but if we complain to higher-ups we are accused of being 'n——r' lovers and no telling what will happen to us.

The Young Southerner

"I hope you will print what I am saying and I also hope your readers will believe that all white Southerners are not against colored people. We younger people have watched the cruel injustices heaped upon the colored people in the South and somebody who knows but few of us will be in the Senate, House of Representatives, or even the White House and we will try to right all wrongs."

The white cadet said that if the Southern white people would just break that nasty wall they have built between them and the colored people and give them equal opportunities in every respect then they would see a great change in the colored people in the South. Instead they won't respect the colored people who in turn are losing respect for them."

Baltimore, Md

Fear Psychology

"The people of the South," he declared, "are just naturally afraid to give the colored people in the rural sections education, because they know it creates unrest and when the colored people find out their rights and how to leave, most of the feminine lily-white hands will have to go through some of the toils and labors forced on their numerous underpaid servants who have to slave from sun-up until late in the evening for a mere pittance," he said.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: The young man gave me his name without hesitancy, but it is being withheld for his best interest.]

Why I Came North

Ex-Hamlet, N.C., Girl Says She's Earning $60 Every Ten Days in New York

Afro-American Baltimore, Md

By M. ALSTON

WASHINGTON

Although we are supposed to be fighting for democracy, condition for colored people in the South are growing steadily worse, Miss Ada James, of Hamlet, N.C., told the AFRO in explaining why she came North for employment.

Miss James, when interviewed in the Union Station, painted a drab picture of her home town where colored people are forced to live under conditions not far removed from slavery.

"The place is just about one of the worst in the world for our soldiers, Miss James said. "They cannot even purchase food to take out on the streets to eat.

Curfew for Soldiers

"Our soldiers are not allowed out on the streets after a certain hour at night. This just doesn't make sense to me."

Mrs. James told of having to stop school when quite young to help her mother. She said she worked for one of the richest white women in town and was paid only 50 cents a day after working from daybreak to late in the evening.

Youth Leaving South

"Don't worry about the people leaving the South," she continued, "because girls and boys as young as 14 and 15 years old are leaving as fast as they can. They are beginning to realize that there is a place in the sun for them and they intend to find it.

"What can they hope for in Hamlet? There is no public library for colored, and we can't use the one for whites. The schoolhouse burned down and I don't think that it has been built.

For War in Dixie

"The best war we could have is one down South to beat some common sense into those Southern oppressors," the young woman added. "Don't you think that President Roosevelt could do something about the mistreatment of our soldiers? If he can't then he shouldn't be in the White House."

Miss James says she now makes $60 to $70 every ten days as pantry girl in an essential industry and plans to bring her mother and younger sister to New York as soon as possible.

NEGRO MIGRATION IS NOT THE ANSWER.

From The Louisville Defender

Journal and Guide Norfolk, Virginia

After reading comments pro and con on the recent alleged statements of Attorney General Biddle apropos of the curtailment of Negro migration from the South to the North, we are further up a tree as to just what is going on than we were when it first became public knowledge that he had approached the President on this subject.

Due to the fact that no authentic detailed publication of the proposition has been made, comments and interpretations must perforce remain in the realm of pure conjecture, the subsequent explanatory statements made by the Attorney General not withstanding. Whether the proposition as quoted by various publications presents the true picture or whether the Attorney General's explanation is correct does not make the situation any clearer. If the first is a true picture, then the Attorney General displays an amazing lack of understanding of democratic principles and an unfortunate lack of sympathy for conditions for one in his exalted governmental position. If on the other hand, there is logic in his explanation, which we doubt, there is also a too obvious attempt at sublety.

If he would be both democratic and logical in his attempts to stop race friction, why not place the same restriction on white southerners as well as black. If Negro migration North is the sole cause of race friction, then WHY THE ROITS IN MOBILE, TEXAS AND OTHER SOUTHERN COMMUNITIES?

IS MIGRATION THE SOLUTION TO THE NEGRO PROBLEM?

Defender Chicago, Ill

Back during World War I Robert S. Abbott, late publisher of the Chicago Defender, made journalistic history with his brilliant editorials and articles urging Negro migration out of the South. His rallying call, "To die from the bite of frost is far more glorious than that of the mob," became a watchword throughout Dixie. Abbott became a modern Moses leading his people out of the terror and brutality of the South into the promised land. The Defender became a passport to freedom.

Publisher Abbott did a remarkable pioneering job in 1918. He virtually brought the industrial revolution to the Negro who had been a man of the soil since the earliest days of slavery.

Migration was very much in order in 1918. For his day and time Abbott acted with wisdom and sagacity in winning for the Negro his industrial spurs.

But 1943 is another matter.

Today once more a vast migration of Negroes out of the South has brought thousands into the North. The figures for Chicago migrants since 1940 range up to 65,000. A new trend has been the big march from South to West, where thousands are finding war work in Pacific Coast war plants.

While the new migration is a healthy sign of Negro progress, the Defender does not agree with those soothsayers who believe that the solution to the Negro's woes lies in getting out of the South.

The fact still remains that some ten million of the thirteen million Negroes in the nation are still in the South. To move a major portion of them to the North would bring disaster at this time of unrest and upheaval. The housing, health and delinquency problems of the North are overburdened now.

But perhaps the most important reason against encouraging widespread migration is that it would not solve one iota of the Negro problem. Negroes in the North have learned that Jim Crow and discrimination is no less humiliating and degrading in the North than in the South. They have felt through the bitter depression years that the pangs of hunger and starvation are just as bad in the North as the South.

Migration is not the solution to the Negro problem. We do not believe in any measures to curtail migration, as was once proposed by Attorney General Francis Biddle. But we also feel that those who picture the North as some heaven and thump the drums for migration as the salvation of the Negro people are selling a bill of goods under false pretenses.

It is not often that we have occasion to agree with a governor of Georgia but we believe that Gov. Ellis Arnall of Georgia stated the situation correctly when he declared before the New York Southern Society last week that "the racial problem . . . is an economic problem" rather than a sectional affair.

In declarations such as his and Presidential Assistant Jonathan Daniels' statement that the future of the white South is dependent on the future of the Negro South, there is much encouragement. Native white Southerners are awakening to the realization that they cannot duck the racial problem and that as long as they keep the Negro down they will be kept down. The solution of the Negro problem is the solution of the Southern problem and vice versa. When both Negro and white learn this, we will be on the road to true emancipation. Migration, yes—but never as the final road to Negro freedom.

35f-1943

New Problem for the West Coast

Negroes and Whites Take Race Friction Along on Migration from the South

By Horace R. Cayton.
Director, Parkway Community House.

WORLD WAR I witnessed the migration of over one million Negroes from the South to urban areas of the North. Such Middle Western cities as Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland and Toledo and Eastern cities such as New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Washington, experienced a growth of their colored population by as much as 100 per cent. This movement of Southern Negroes to Middle Western and Eastern cities, which has continued since World War I, has been accentuated by the present war.

First of a Series

Probably not as great from the point of view of numbers, but dramatic and important, is a similar migration which is now taking place on the West Coast. Its cause is evident in the enormous expansion of the aircraft and ship-building industries.

The migration of large numbers of Negroes to the West Coast presents an altogether different problem from the present migration to the large Eastern and Middle West cities.

On the West Coast there are, for the most part, no segregated Negro areas which can absorb numbers of Negro migrants. Any increase in population, especially in substantial numbers, immediately creates the problem of housing. In these cities of the West where the race relations patterns have been very liberal because the problem has been very small, tension and friction have developed on a scale which the West has never before experienced.

To the casual observer it is obvious that a new race relations pattern is being established. It is obvious also that the Negro problem, which was at one time confined almost solely to the South, has rapidly become a national problem by the redistribution of the black people to the urban centers of the Middle West and East, and now throughout the Pacific Coast. As late as 1890 over 90 per cent of all Negroes were to be found in the South. In 1930 79 per cent of the colored population was in the South and by 1940, 78 per cent. Since 1940 migration from the South to the North and the West has proceeded at an astounding rate.

* * *

NEGRO migration to the West previous to the present war was at a relatively slow rate. In 1900 there were only 30,000 Negroes in the Western states of Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, Washington, Oregon and California.

By 1940 that number had increased to over 170,000. Since 1940 a conservative estimate would be that that population has increased nearly 100 per cent.

By far the largest concentration is in California, especially in the Bay area, including San Francisco and Oakland, and in the city of Los Angeles. The Negro population of California has increased from 11,000 in 1900 to 124,000 in 1940 and, the War Manpower Commission estimates, to 200,000 in 1943.

* * *

SAN FRANCISCO has never had a large Negro population. A few years ago there were fewer than 6,000 Negroes in the city. Now there are between 15,000 and 20,000.

Further, most of the Negro migrants have settled in the area where the Japanese lived before they were evacuated to interment camps, that is, along Sutter st.

This area is terribly overcrowded and though all the Negroes living under these substandard conditions are making extremely good salaries, it is extremely difficult for them to find homes in any other section of the city.

* * *

SAN FRANCISCANS get nervous when they walk along Sutter st. and see thousands of Negroes standing around on the sidewalks, swarming in and out of poolrooms and taverns and making remarks at passers-by.

In this the experience of San Francisco is much like that of all other Pacific Coast cities. White citizens are appalled by this new Negro problem which they have very little background for understanding.

Tensions in race relations on the Pacific Coast arise not only out of the influx of Southern Negroes.

* * *

THERE has been just as large a migration, if not larger, of Southern whites. Four factors operate to make the residents of these West Coast cities jittery about race relations.

Southern Negroes who have experienced a taste of freedom for the first time are aggressive in their attitude toward whites. Southern whites who have gone to the West, in many cases, feel that it is necessary to inform Northern whites about the manner in which they feel the Negro should be treated and to demonstrate this by direct action.

Many of them are also anxious to impress upon Negroes, both Southern and Northern, that they intend to keep them in their place.

* * *

THE older Negro residents of these areas, usually well established and respected citizens in the community, resent both the Southern whites and the Southern Negroes.

The Southern whites they resent because they are introducing, or attempting to introduce, a pattern of race relations which the Northern Negro residents have never experienced. They are resentful against the Southern Negro migrant because he is often uncouth, and they hold him responsible for the increase in racial prejudice.

The older white residents of San Francisco are appalled by the new aggressiveness of all Negroes that they meet, the friction between Southern whites and Negroes, especially Southern Negroes, and by the mere fact of the presence of a large Negro population which they have not seen before.

* * *

THE accommodation which will take place between Negroes and whites on the Pacific Coast will undoubtedly be different from that which existed before the war. There is a high degree of probability that the same type of residential segregation, prejudice in public places, and to an extent, limitation of job opportunities, will characterize the West as it does the cities of the Middle West and the East.

Because there has been a liberality toward the Negro in that section which is not as true of any other section of the country, it is very possible that a different pattern of race relations might be worked out.

This depends largely upon how intelligently members of the community can plan, how much they can use the experience of Middle Western and Eastern cities in adjusting their racial problems.

* * *

WITHOUT such planning, there is no doubt that a series of riots will sweep the West as it did the Middle West during and after the first World War.

The great advantage that the West has in working out amicable race relations is the experience which it can draw on from other sections of the country that have had large Negro migration. There is also the tradition of liberality which characterized our Western frontier.

If there was ever a time and an opportunity to employ what we have learned in social planning for racial adjustment, it is present in the complex and paradoxical situation of our West Coast.

The second article of the series will appear tomorrow on this page.

IN San Francisco the projects are such a city as Detroit are present mixed but there is a tendency in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and to segregate Negroes into one particular building of a project. In other projects in the same city Negroes and whites are integrated and housed according to their needs with no discrimination.

Federal housing indeed illustrates the inconsistency of the race relations pattern on the West Coast. Here, as in other areas of social life, no program for the treatment of Negroes has been developed which is consistent even within the city.

The problem of housing on the West Coast is a glaring example of one of the great failures of our present war effort directly attributable to a reactionary Congress. The problem of Negro housing is the same as that of any other people, only intensified by the factor of race prejudice,

* * *

Police, both frightened and antagonized by the influx of strange people, have frequently used the club or the gun to solve social problems which should have been worked out by social workers, city planners, and federal and local administrators. There is not, however, the lynch spirit in the police departments of the Pacific Coast which one often finds in cities which have been embittered by the experience of a race riot.

Amicable relationships between the police and the Negro community can still be worked out in these localities.

* * *

A GOOD example of how police can handle a difficult situation occurred in San Francisco. For a period of months, San Francisco was terrorized by a rapist, alleged to be a light complexioned Negro, who systematically at-

POLICE brutality is another very real problem for Negroes everywhere in the United States, and especially where there is a large migration. All of the factors which have resulted in a hatred, fear, and distrust of the police in

New Problem for the West Coast

Housing, 'Jim Crowism,' Police and Some Unions Figure in Race Troubles

By Horace Cayton.
Director, Parkway Community House.

FOUR problems characterize the West Coast cities such as Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego. First and foremost is the problem of housing. Limited housing facilities is not an exclusive Negro problem. All of the West Coast has experienced an extraordinary growth in population, and housing facilities are at a premium.

Second of a Series

Outside of nearly all of the large cities there are shack towns and trailer towns. Most residential property has long since been exhausted and it is indeed difficult to get a reservation at a hotel.

However, in the case of the Negro, this problem has been accentuated by the factor of racial prejudice. Fortunately for him at least, the evacuation of Japanese left some space into which Negro housing could expand.

These areas were usually adjacent to existent Negro areas and were in all cases in the most undesirable portions of the city. They did, however, provide housing facilities into which, as bad as they were, incoming Negroes to the various cities could settle. In Seattle, San Francisco and Los Angeles, the former "Japanese Towns" are now solidly black.

Federal housing also has afforded some relief to Negro migrants. There are large housing projects in all three of the principal cities of the Coast, although the construction of federal housing projects is far behind schedule and not nearly enough have been planned to meet the needs. However, it is difficult to imagine what would have happened if this limited number of projects had not been built.

The race relations pattern in the federal housing projects differs from city to city and ofttimes from project to project. In Seattle Negroes are for the most part integrated throughout the projects of the Seattle Housing Authorities. There are, however, some predominantly or totally Negro projects large numbers of Negroes adjacent to plants that employ

tacked the wives of defense workers. There was so much hysteria on the part of the community that at one time it was feared that a race riot might ensue.

The assistant chief of police, however, at the height of the tension, made a statement to the effect that his department was trying to find a criminal who happened to be a Negro and was not out on a Negro hunt.

This did much to allay racial tensions. After some time the rapist was captured and turned out to be, not a light complexioned Negro, but a dark complexioned white man.

* * *

ON THE other hand, the police department admits frankly that it would prefer to have Negroes stay in the Negro community. There have been incidents where Negroes demanded service in restaurants and hotels where they have never been welcome.

Numerous discussions have been held as to whether certain parts of San Francisco, through which many Negro servicemen pass, should be out of bounds for them and whether the Negro community should be out of bounds for white servicemen.

So far these conflicts have not been serious enough to warrant any action.

* * *

NEGROES are employed to a larger extent and in more categories on the West Coast than in probably any other part of the United States.

Negro men and women are finding work opportunities which they have never had before in the history of the country. There is difficulty, however, with the unions.

The machinists' union denies Negroes membership by constitutional provision. A few locals have defied the international and granted membership to Negroes.

* * *

THE boilermakers' union set up Negro auxiliaries which gave the Negro members no voice in union affairs and no representation in management. A group of Negroes refused to join and were fired.

The National Labor Relations Board has demanded that they be rehired and the whole question of whether a Negro can be forced into an auxiliary local which does not give him the advantages of full membership is being threshed out.

Because of the racial policy of these two internationals especially, there has been much friction in some of the shipyards, and some strikes which have impeded production to a considerable extent.

* * *

WHERE the C.I.O. unions have jurisdiction, especially in the Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's union, the situation is entirely different. Probably more than in any other section of the country, the California State C.I.O. has fought all forms of prejudice among its members.

Not only have they increased production by eliminating racial friction, but they have also exercised a great deal of influence upon the general race relations pattern of the city.

In Seattle, San Francisco and Los Angeles the minoriay group division of the C.I.O. has been active in keeping down race conflict and has sponsored a better feeling between the two groups.

* * *

BAD housing, bad relations with police, discrimination in public places and in employment are the lot of the American Negro.

In the West, however, none of these problems have the background and history of bitterness which they have in the Middle West, East and South.

Because of this, the situation is much more hopeful than elsewhere in the country.

The final article of the series will appear tomorrow on this page.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Seasonal Workers Free to Migrate

WASHINGTON

Seasonal workers in war production or in support of the war effort may move from one locality to another without losing occupational classification, and may be considered for occupational deferment, the War Manpower Commission announced Friday.

To maintain their necessary men" classification, however, they must: (a) work at seasonal occupations 8 months of the year; (b) Work at some war occupation during off-season, and (c) Return to their former occupations at the opening of the season.

New Problem for the West Coast

Film Colony Works with Liberals and Labor for Better Race Relations

By Horace Cayton.
Director, Parkway Community House.

WEST Coast cities differ in the extent to which they are attempting to solve their tense racial situations. The differences are based upon a number of factors. Among them would be the extent of organization within the Negro community itself; the degree to which organized labor, especially the C.I.O., has influenced the city, and whether there previously existed a large Negro population. Three cities, Seattle, San Francisco and Los Angeles, will illustrate the point.

Seattle has always been a liberal town as far as Negroes are concerned, but it has never had a large Negro population. Before the war, there were probably 4,000 Negroes in Seattle—now there are 12,000 with more coming each day. The original Negro population was not highly stratified, and there was much competition for social, political and economic ascendancy within the group.

Negro leadership now seems almost hopelessly divided on religious, political and cultural lines. Although most of the leaders realize the problem, few have any notion as to what to do about it and spend most of their time complaining about the behavior of the new migrants, white and black. There has been no plan or proposal emanating from the Negro community as to how this new situation should be handled.

The white community of Seattle finds itself more or less in the same position. When a Southern mother refuses to let her children attend the public schools because Negroes are in the same classroom, old residents are shocked but helpless. In some instances firm steps have been taken by those who have convictions about the role of the Negro, but in most others there is apathy. The labor movement in Seattle is dominated by the American Federation of Labor, which has not taken an active interest in the Negro's problem. Consequently, of the three cities, Seattle presents the most discouraging picture: a Negro community which has not been able to develop leadership, a white community painfully aware of but appalled by the situation and a labor movement which is far from progressive.

* * *

SAN FRANCISCO resembles Seattle to a large extent in two characteristics. It has had a small Negro population previous to the present migration — probably around 4,000. With the influx of southern Negroes who had little in common with the old San Franciscan, leadership among Negroes has been divided and rendered impotent. Here too, the Negro community has been unable to plan for itself or to suggest a plan for the entire city for more amicable race relations.

There is an important difference, however, in San Francisco, and that is the presence of a mature liberal-labor movement. Probably one of the important reasons for the lack of racial violence under the most provocative circumstances has been an organization called the Bay Area Committee Against Discrimination.

This committee has been working for the past year and a half (long before the Detroit riot when most such committees were formed) on the general problem of discrimination. Representing all community organizations — from churches to labor unions and from conservative Republicans to left-wing adherents—it is the most workable type of organization and has proved more effective than any other on the Coast.

* * *

IT is effective because in its formation and organization the committee realized that the problem of urban adjustment of Negroes was a matter which concerned the entire community, the war effort and this country's chances to continue to exist and develop as a democracy.

The problem was not left to labor, or to the Negro, or to liberals — it was considered everyone's problem. With this assumption, they organized the entire community on this basis and have obtained splendid results.

Even more important than the work of this committee is the background of the successful struggles of the C.I.O. to organize San Francisco.

* * *

WITH much emphasis placed upon the problem of the Negro and all minority groups, the California State C.I.O. has been successful in stamping out much racial prejudice and building up a tolerance among white workers in their various internationals.

The aggressive leadership of members of the unions and the spirit of tolerance which characterized many of the workers is bearing fruit in this present crisis.

For a long time the California State C.I.O. has known what it liked and what it did not like. One thing it does not like is race discrimination, and its uncompromising stand in the past has eased the present situation.

* * *

LOS ANGELES presents a totally different picture. As early as 1920 there were over 15,000 Negroes in that city, and there were 30,000 in 1940. Now there are between 90,000 and 100,000 Negroes in Los Angeles.

There is, therefore, a well defined and articulate Negro leadership and several well established Negro newspapers. The Negro community of Los Angeles took leadership in requesting the municipal government to take action in the racial situation.

Even before the "zoot suit" riot, request had been made to the mayor appointed a five-man, allsome sort of commission or committee. After the Detroit riot, the mayor appointed a five-man, all Negro committee to advise him on racial matters.

* * *

SOON after its organization the Negro committee demanded that representatives of other minority groups and of the dominant white community be added to this committee. After some hesitation this was done, and a broad program of social action, including educational talks and rallies in mixed communities, programs for better housing, health and transportation facilities were outlined.

As now constituted, the mayor's committee on race relations of Los Angeles is one of the best in the country.

Los Angeles has a large liberal-labor bloc which has made a valuable contribution to racial amity.

* * *

ESPECIALLY to be commended in this connection is the minority division of the State C.I.O. in Los Angeles which has been working for some years on the problems of Negroes and Mexicans and their place in industry.

Although there is tension between these various minority groups and between all of the minority groups and the majority groups, mechanisms and machinery have been established to dissipate much of the ill will. The Negro community has found strong allies in the liberals of Hollywood and other professional and literary groups throughout the city. One should especially note the work of Carey McWilliams, author of "Brothers Under the Skin."

Los Angeles represents probably the most explosive situation on the coast, but, paradoxically enough, it is also the city in which more interracial work is being done and more and better tools to work with are being forged.

This article concludes a series of three.

Bahamans Ease Tennessee Bean Harvest Problem

Pittsburgh Courier

MOUNTAIN CITY, Tenn., Sept. 16—Strange doings are going on in these hyar hills.

Voices with curious accents mingle with the delightful dialect of the mountain folks and a new look of prosperity has descended upon Johnson county that has left the

WELL EDUCATED

Most of the Bahamans are well educated, a few of them are college graduates, and they are sticklers for cleanliness. Some of them have their families with them.

The workers are guaranteed $3 per day for 75 cents and they pay 35 cents for food at the camp mess hall. If their families have remained in the Bahamas, 75 cents a day is held out of their wages and sent back home.

They pick from 8 to 18 bushels per day for which they receive 40 cents per bushel. In other sections of the camp is a number of domestic workers, but camp officials say they do not mingle freely with the Bahamans.

IMPORT BAHAMANS

When it became obvious that agers said the only help trouble and their biggest more than 400 natives from sau, who are located at this tion.

Growers say that employ these native Bahamians because they say that they pick more beans like demons. Camp man-

So the WFA turned to the Bahama Islands where it appealed to the United States Employment Service which certified the need to the War Administration.

Growers give no wages and sent back home. complain-

357-1943

Migrant Tomato Pickers Live In Chicken Coops

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

SEP 11 1943

QUAKERTOWN, Pa.—The state will seek the conviction of Edward O. Mastin for the deaths of Willie Cooper and Mrs. Odell May, Negro migratory workers who were burned to death here August 17 in a barn on the Mastin farm on Route No. 2. It is expected that the case will tried early in October.

A personal investigation by John Grantham, president of the Lehigh Valley NAACP branch, revealed that the victims were two of fifty migratory workers who were brought from Florida by a white contractor to gather in the tomato crop on the Mastin farm. Tomatoes picked by these workers are sold to the government through the Campbell Soup company.

Most of the workers are housed in chicken coops; the largest being about 7 feet square and only five feet in height. Grantham said in his report "workers along with their children are living in these small chicken coops—and these little coops, even if they were fit to live in, are too small for a couple to live in comfortably—but the most horrible thing of all is that nearly every worker has a large family and he and his family live in these small houses . . . This condition is worse than slavery would have ever been."

Unable To Return

Though dissatisfied with the conditions under which they have been forced to live, the workers said that they have not been able to earn enough money for railroad fares.

The deceased persons were living in a barn and were burned to death at midday when they were trapped by a fire on the third floor. There was only one exit and one of the workers suffered a broken back when he attempted to leap from a window; another was severely burned.

At the coroner's hearing at Quakertown on August 27, the coroner's jury held Mastin responsible for the death of the two workers. Prentice Thomas, member of the NAACP national legal staff, attended the hearings.

Evidence presented at the hearing showed that several families lived in the barn. Some of the persons had oil stoves on which they cooked. The barn was filled with hay and other inflammable material. There were no fire escapes; the only exit being through one door and the windows.

Here's Biddle's Letter to FDR Suggesting Curb on Migration

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

AUG 21 1943

Attorney General Backtracks in Letter

The AFRO presents here some excerpts from the letter which Attorney General Francis Biddle wrote to President Roosevelt in which he recommended that restrictions be placed upon the migration of colored Americans.

July 15, 1943

Dear Mr. President:

I sent out a personal representative to Detroit last week to report on the riot situation. He conferred with the Governor, the Mayor, the Commission of Police, and other officials. Monsignor Hass also spent three days in Detroit. I have had daily reports from the Federal Bureau of Investigation . . .

The causes of the riots are apparent. During the past three years the population of Detroit has increased by 485,000 persons, many of whom are colored. There are no subways or elevated trains in Detroit so that the transportation situation is particularly difficut causing great overcrowding in the buses.

Housing Deplorable

The housing situation, particularly among the colored sections is deplorable. The same is true of the recreation situation, which is greatly overburdened and overcrowded.

The Detroit Police Department is, in spite of the increase in population, actually 280 men short of budget allotment. Moreover, many of the present policemen are not well trained on account of the number of men who have been drafted and whose places had to be filled from the only available and often inadequate personnel. These conditions prevail generally throughout the country.

Much of the violence could have been prevented had the troops arrived sooner. It is believed that there was a misunderstanding between the local officials and the military as to what steps should be taken to arrange for the troops to come in.

Plants Orderly

It is extremely interesting that there was no disorder WITHIN PLANTS, where colored and white men worked side by side, on account of efficient union discipline.

I believe that the riots in Detroit do not represent an isolated case but are typical of what may occur in other cities throughout the country.

The situation in Los Angeles is extrmel ytense; I am also concerned with the racial unrest in Washington, D.C., Chicago, Ill., and elsewhere. The hot season up to Labor Day, when crowds seek outdoor relief, is the period of greatest danger.

Biddle's Program

I believe that certain steps could be taken which would, to a certain extent ameliorate similar conditions elsewhere. I therefore recommend:

1. That you suggest to the Secretary of War that he work out a simple manual in co-operation with the Department of Justice which could be used by all local officials and by corps commanders to expedite the procedure of sending in troops.

2. That you suggest to Mr. McNutt that immediate arrangements "Steps must be taken to defer the manpower necessity to equip our local police agencies. If this is not done promptly I feel that we must expect a repetition of internal disorders such as the Los Angeles 'zoot suit' cases and the Detroit race riots."

3. That careful considerations be give nto limiting, and in some instances putting an end to colored migrations into communities which cannot absorb them, either on account of their physical limitations or cultural background. This needs immediate and careful consideration.

No More to Detroit

When postwar readjustments begin, and jobs are scarcer, the situation will become far more acute. Witness the dislocations in cities caused by the migrations shortly after the last world war. It would seem pretty clear that no more colored should move into Detroit.

4. As to the general situation, I suggest that you direct the organization of an inter-departmental committee consisting of those departments whose activities in one way or another are concerned with race relations.

These are: The Department of Justice, the Fair Employment Practice Committee, the War Department, the Navy Department, the National Housing Agency, the War Manpower Commission, the Office of War Information, the National War Labor Board, and possibly the Committee for Congested Production Areas of O.E.M. . . .

Talked with Haas

5. Since the Detroit riots I have talked to Monsignor Hass Bishop Wright, who saw you at the White House, and other persons who are deply. concerned with the race problem. I think it would be advisable that a national committee be formed to make a study of the whole situation and do an extended educational and publicity job chiefly in the local communities.

6. It has been suggested that you should go on the radio to discuss the whole problem. This, I think, would be unwise. However, you might consider discussing it the next time you talk about the overall domestic situation as one of the problems to be considered.

Respectfully yours,
(s) FRANCIS BIDDLE,
Attorney General.

The President
The White House

Methods Called 'Highhanded'

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

AUG 14 1943

Commission Gets Protest On Draft Of Farm Workers

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., Aug. 12—The recruiting of 438 Florida workers for a New Jersey canning plant was termed "high-handed and apparently in utter disregard of Florida's needs for essential labor," by Governor Spessard L. Holland, in a protest to War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt. The 438 laborers were taken immediately to Orlando Saturday by special train to the same employer and place onto another would be taken from work in the Campbell Soup company's Camden (N. J.) plant. He asked for assurance "that steps will be taken immediately to forestall any possible future movement of ANOTHER MOVE ON FOOT from the state under similar recruiting methods."

The Governor, in a telegram to McNutt, Thursday, said he had been informed that "plans to exist for the moving of another group of emigrant laborers to be sent to by the War Manpower Commission, has announced that complaints of transporting labor from one State be investigated

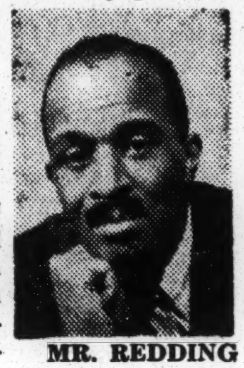
DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

A Second Look

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

By J. SAUNDERS REDDING

THE ADVOCATES of the mass migration of Negroes from the South to the North seem to have a certain simplicity of mind which is commendable when dealing with problems of things, but which is entirely untrustworthy when dealing with problems of people. The two-plus-two-equals-four type of thinking, which is logical and consistent thinking, has never yet solved any great social problem or any problem in human relationships. Human relationships themselves are not logical.



MR. REDDING

The logical minds of the advocates of mass migration of Negroes to the North are beguiled by the illusory lights thrown on history and geography. In long steps they reason like this: The North has been traditionally the haven of refuge for Negroes. The Underground Railroad had its principal depots and termini there in the days before the Civil War. The North fought to free the Negro from slavery. Northern men advocated the adoption of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments.

Negroes in the North vote, they hold political jobs, and (thanks to the publicity given to certain Negro-white relationships by Negroes who are a little too happy about being on dinner terms with somebody white, a little too proud that their son or daughter is accepted by the whites "as one of them," a little too upstage about the number of their white intimacies of both the blameless and the shameless kind—a little too much of everything to be entirely convincing) they get along "good" with the whites up North.

LOGICAL INFLUENCE

Now, from these data the logical mind draws the logical inference that the North is the place for Negroes. Negroes, go North!

But the thinking that comes to this conclusion is all wrong, all false—as recent race troubles in the North have proved. It is false precisely because it is logical and because the factors in which it deals, the human factors, are illogical. One does not have far to look to find classic examples of this. The report on the Detroit race riot is one very recent example. Before that there were others.

It is a sad, understandable, but nevertheless illogical truth that in a capitalistic system of economic competition group prejudices are multiplied in direct ratio to numbers. And there group prejudices are not confined to race-group prejudices. The larger and stronger a labor group becomes the greater grow the prejudices of the capitalists. In Paris in 1933 the Catholic transportation workers struck because too many Protestants had been hired into the system. There was the ridiculous affair in Hollywood a few years ago when the brunette movie extras protested against the hiring of so many blondes.

In a defense plant in Canton, Ohio, last year two hundred white men were perfectly content to work with ten Negroes, but when ten more Negroes were hired the white men struck. These things don't make sense, but they happen. The purely economic factor, even in our partially controlled economy, is too strong; and the people involved in the materialistic struggle seek alliances with those who are most obviously like themselves against those who are unlike.

(But even this is oversimplification, and I admit it. And anyway, like Arthur Davis who writes "With a Grain of Salt," I'm tired of the race problem. I shouldn't be, since it is my problem as much as it is the problem of every American, but I am; and I think I'll give it a rest for a while).

NORTH NOT READY FOR MASS MIGRATION

The most that a mass migration of Negroes could hope to accomplish at this time would be a more even distribution of the Negro population. But the North is not ready for it. One ventures the opinion that if such an influx of Negroes was forced upon the North, then within a year Bangor, Maine, would be as difficult for Negroes to live in as Birmingham, Alabama, and Sauk City, Minn., as prejudiced against Negroes as Seneca, Georgia.

Pursuit Of Democracy

Population Shifts Offer Many Post-War Problems For Social Planners

BY MARJORIE McKENZIE

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

THE SOCIOLOGISTS who are interested in ecology, or the study of population distribution, are giving much of their attention of late to the phenomena and problems of internal migration. Newspaper columnists and traveling reporters have been way ahead of them in discussing the impact of a war-tossed people on American thought and custom. The presence of Texans in Indiana, of Ohioans in New Jersey, New Yorkers in Oregon and Oklahomans in Maine, is bound to have a profound effect upon the inbreeding and provincialism of regional attitudes. Perhaps minority groups do not think often of the hostile attitudes which white Americans from different sections entertain for each other, since we are so occupied in measuring what each thinks of us. Many of our difficulties are but intensifications of regional animosities. It is, therefore, important that we develop an awareness of the mobility of the white population and attempt to evaluate what it may mean to us.



Miss McKenzie

OBSERVE MIDDLE CLASS MIGRANTS

During the Detroit riot, there were a great many references made to Southern white migration as a cause of racial tension. People take more than their baggage with them when they leave home. They are burdened with neat little bundles of firmly crystallized ideas on every subject of consequence in their lives and they are not easily persuaded to dispose of these ideas and accumulate new ones. This does not mean that they are impervious to the values of their new environment. Almost every human being is motivated by the desire for status, that is, for recognition and approval by persons posessing more wealth or power.

IF THE prejudices an individual carries do not conform to the patterns established in his new home, often he will suppress his old beliefs and appear to accept those of the people he wishes to impress. This is chiefly true of middle class people. The lower class cares nothing for status, having none and aspiring to none. It will tend to hold on to old habits of thought. The upper class has status and very little fear of losing it and, therefore, makes a point of luxuriating in its idosyncrasies, whether they be negative or positive ones. It seems clear, then, that minority groups ought to observe middle class migrants pretty carefully.

DISLOCATIONS MAY BE FOR THE GOOD

The Southern white who moves North into an area of good race relations is not hopeless if he is interested in making contacts with the influential people of the community. The Northern middle class white who moves to the Deep South, however, is potentially dangerous if he does have entree to the "right people." Always the newcomer is in a relatively hostile atmosphere and insecure about the degree of acceptance he will win.

THE EXTREME regionalism of the United States has not been understood by many of her people, except perhaps in historical instances such as the South's hatred of "damn Yankees." This regionalism is the foundation of most of our political woes and deep cleavages in national policy. But today Americans are spreading all over the length and breadth of the country, not only enlisted personnel, but also war workers and their wanderlusting families. It may be a good thing for them to go and see how the other fellow lives and thinks. Something good may come of these dislocations for us. However, we shall have to help direct the regroupings in community life if we wish to profit from it.

Negroes are migrating too; not as much as they did during World War I, but since September, 1942, there has been an acceleration, according to a research memorandum in the September issue of Dr. Charles S. Johnson's "Monthly Summary of Events and Trends in Race Relations" (Fisk university). In 41 cities of more than 50,000 population which are engaged in war production, the estimated net in-migration of Negroes was 457,800 since 1940. It is further suggested by Dr. Johnson that if all cities over 50,000 were included in the estimate, that the total figure would approximate 600,000. The largest increase in urban settlement has occurred in the South, where Negroes have moved in from rural districts to get jobs in war industries which are greatly concentrated in the South. The West Coast has seen the largest proportional increase, notably in San Francisco, and outside the South the increase has occurred principally in Detroit, Chicago and Philadelphia.

THIS MIGRATION is significant. Dr. Johnson believes that half of it will seek to remain in urban areas. That means better education, health, housing and employment opportunities than the rural South can provide. It also means population competition, pressures on overtaxed facilities, more problems of racial adjustment. We are piling up another post-war problem, which many of our leaders will welcome because it presents a further complication to seemingly insoluble difficulties. The fact that we must remember, nevertheless, is that we can not achieve permanent gains for part of our people; we must lift up the whole and must get them into the light of urban civilization to do it. In the process, we shall find that we have as much to do on the attitudes of our own migrants as we shall encounter with their white "fellow travelers."

U. S. JAILS 600 JAMAICANS IN FLORIDA

Farm Laborers Protest New Discriminatory Contracts

Defender Chicago, Ill

By HARRY McALPIN
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — About 600 Jamaicans, brought to this country to help solve the farm labor problem, were jailed by the United States government recently for several days when they refused to sign new contracts and accept the conditions of discrimination in Florida.

A release, written by the Department of Agriculture, explaining what had happened, was hushed up and quashed by the State Department last week.

This unprecedented treatment accorded the black workers from Jamaica has come to light in a summary report of statements issued by the Department of Agriculture, which the State Department overlooked in its cancellation order.

The Defender, in an exclusive story last week, exposed a "black paper" in which the Jamaicans were

35f 1943

Jamaican Farmhands Live Rosy Life As Compared To That Of Bahamians

Tribune
Savannah, Ga.

By SAM LACY
(Defender Staff Correspondent)
Fourth of a Series

Conditions are bad among the thousands of Jamaican workers brought to this country to aid in the harvesting of American crops. They have legitimate complaints to register against poor housing, lack of work, absence of hygiene facilities and general mistreatment to which they are subjected at the government-maintained farm-labor centers. They have reasonable excuses for wanting to "chuck everything" and go back home, as many have threatened to do.

But while life for the Jamaicans is admittedly bad, theirs is a rosy existence as compared to that of their fellow-immigrants, the approximately 1,300 men and women from the Bahamas who are here for the same purpose of relieving an acute farm-labor shortage which, according to the War Food Administration, prevails in this country.

I wound up my recent 2,812-mile tour of inspection of New England and Eastern farm-labor camps with a trek down through Delaware and into Maryland. For there it is that a vast majority of the Bahamian workers are concentrated.

These people found themselves corralled in definitely anti-Negro communities when it was discovered that the Jamaican government had insisted, before signing an agreement with the U. S. Farm Security Administration, that all its workers be placed above the Mason-Dixon line.

Beset With Other Problems

The result is that racial indignities are heaped atop the many other ills which they, like their Jamaican counterparts, face in these farm-labor supply areas.

Too, the Bahamian workers experience a great deal of intra-camp friction, see a slow but steady growth of a syphilis menace among them, and suffer the usual disadvantages of a low intelligence ratio.

My first stop after leaving the Jamaican camps was at Woodside, Del., where approximately 112 Bahamian men and women, supplemented by 27 Floridans, supply labor for farms within a 20-mile radius of Dover.

From Woodside, I made my way down into the Eastern Shore of Maryland and visited at the Hebron Center, Hebron; Westover Center, Princess Anne; Pocomoke Center, Pocomoke City, and Vienna Center, Vienna.

The Delaware camp provided a sort of respite for me, since I had spent so many days in the squalid surroundings of the New Jersey centers. The physical aspect of the camp was a decided improvement over those at Bridgeton, Burlington and Swedesboro, to name a few. For though it, too, had its evils, I was pleased to find eight shower heads available for the 140 workers, which is a long way from the two showers I found servicing 400 men at Burlington.

Syphilis Menace

On the other hand, it was reported to me that Woodside is menaced by the possible spread of a dreaded venereal disease. Syphilis is said to have been discovered in not less than 20 persons and, despite the pleas of authorities, several of these affected workers remain indifferent to the danger.

It was further reported to me that a large number of workers have been refused simple service by merchants in nearby towns because of their color. In one instance, a Wilmington counterman threatened a worker with bodily harm because he requested service of ice cream in the store.

Several Bahamians, peeved by the anti-racialism that has confronted them, have urged James H. Smith, of Atlantic City, the assistant manager of the center, to get clearance for them to return. Smith has been approached on pretext that death or serious illness has struck in the family of the worker.

Morale among the workers at Woodside is somewhat better than that encountered elsewhere, however, and the camp has served to improve the social life among some. An example of this is Smith's report that three couples have married since arriving at the center in late June.

Don't Like Each Other

This also was a revelation to me, as I discovered on my tour through the remainder of the Bahamian camps that while they are all countrymen, few get along well with each other.

The reason for this was made clear to me as I questioned several of them at Hebron and Westover Centers. There are approximately 200 small islands making up the Bahamas, and the natives of one rarely see fit to like the natives of another. Inasmuch as many of these workers come from different islands there is a constant fear of disorder breaking out within their own ranks.

Adding to the dissatisfaction of the Bahamians is the fact that they were obviously spoiled by the better wages they were paid in Florida shortly after their arrival in the United States. Put to work there prior to their being shipped north, the Bahamians were able to earn $1.10 per hamper picking beans. In this way they were able to approximate from $12 to $15 a day.

Reaching the Eastern seaboard, however, where beans are nowhere near as plentiful as they are in Florida, and the prevailing scale of pay much lower, the farmhands could not understand the decided drop in their earnings. Hampers brought only 60 cents each. The inevitable result was dissatisfaction.

Hold Shorter Contracts

From all indications, the food problem is not so serious among the Bahamians. The reason for this, perhaps, is that it is characteristic of them to make themselves satisfied with wat is at hand. They do not, however, relish American dishes. This is confirmed by the fact that weekly menus were being sent, and in some camps still are, from a special WFA diet kitchen in Philadelphia, but use of these menus did not prove altogether popular with the Bahamians and some of the centers abandoned them.

In almost all instances, lunch service has been cut out at the camps. The reason is that the Bahamians do not like sandwiches of any kind, and it is both impracticable and uneconomical to offer other types of luncheons.

Everything considered, there is but one advantage the Bahamians enjoy over their Jamaican fellow-immigrants. And even this could turn out to be disadvantageous. They are signed to contracts which expire every 90 days, whereas the Jamaicans, no matter how irked they may become, cannot quit the centers here and return home until after they have completed six-month contract periods.

The disadvantage, of course, lies in the fact that the WFA can dispose of Bahamian workers who are reasonably satisfied, and probably at a time when they are not as well prepared financially as they would like to be on their journey homeward.

(An overall picture of conditions among immigrant workers, both Jamaican and Bahamian, will be offered in the FINAL chapter of this series, in next week's Chicago Defender.)

WE DIFFER WITH YOU MR. BIDDLE

In the course of human affairs, we all may expect some pleasant and some unpleasant surprises. One of the big unpleasant surprises of the week was the news or information saying that the Attorney General of the United States, Mr. Francis Biddle, has recommended to the President of the United States: Philadelphia, Pa.

"That careful consideration be given to limiting and in some instances putting an end to Negro migrations into communities which cannot absorb them. It would seem pretty clear that no more Negroes should move into Detroit."

In commenting on the above statement we make no effort to interpret what Mr. Biddle says about this matter in other light than his expressed language. We think this is a biased statement dictated by racial prejudice because he did not say any other race or group should be restrained in the freedom to move from place to place in this so-called free country, except the Negro race, and in this statement we beg to differ with him. Philadelphia Tribune

"Of course Mr. Biddle is regarded by many of our group as 'liberal.'" He has, we think, been quite sensitive to many of the injustices which have been imposed upon us by the majority race, and has used his office in what we regard in a sincere effort to redress some of the wrongs from which we have suffered. But this latest move on his part really doesn't sound like Francis Biddle.

Within the past thirty days the writer, together with others, was in a forty-minute conference with the Attorney General of the United States. We were impressed with his outspoken words as he condemned injustices and discrimination based upon race and color. He impressed us as a man of his word—thoughtful, yet alert to the things which so grievously beset us as a race. Therefore, his action in pointing to our race as though it were the only one which makes race problems to the extent that our free movements should be restricted, is most certainly one of our unpleasant surprises in the conduct of a public official.

Tomato Pickers Easy
N.J. Manpower Shortage

St. Louis Argus

CAMDEN, N. J. — (AP) — Jamaican-employed due to slack season in Manpower Commission for tion of the Labor Committee of the Campbell Soup, at the suggestion of the Labor Management Committee of the plant, to work during the tomato season under supervision of the War Manpower Commission. The Company and the Union Commission, however, stepped in to help process the tomato pack contract with Campbell Soup Company. They were assisted by the War Manpower Commission in this project in to take control of the situation.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

Biddle Would Keep Colored In South

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

AUG 14 1943

Alarmed over recent racial disorders, Attorney General Biddle is reported to have recommended to President Roosevelt that the Government limit and possibly prohibit migration of colored workers from the South to Northern production centers.

AUG 14 1943

(Editor's note: We are advised that any prohibition of the free movement of a citizen from one place to another is contrary to law.)

AUG 14 1943

The Attorney General's recommendations resulted from a study made by agents from the civil liberties division of the Department of Justice, working with FBI agents.

AUG 14 1943

In connection with Detroit, where the riot toll stands at 34 dead and 850 injured, Biddle was represented as having urged the President to stop the movement of colored workers into that city entirely, possibly with the assistance of the War Manpower Commission. The WMC could accomplish that through its powers over war jobs.

AUG 24 1943

Biddle was reported to have advised the White House that he felt there was imperative need for action before the summer ends, because the weather was crowding colored and white workers together in recreational centers in cities which are woefully short of such facilities.

AUG 21 1943

Improved housing for colored and a suggestion that the President set up a committee to organize a national educational campaign to promote racial understanding were said to have been among Biddles recommendations.

Bahamans Prefer Comfort To Cash

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

AUG 7 1943

WOODSIDE, Del.—The fact that they could find better living conditions in the North was the reason for the transfer of one hundred Bahamna farm hands from the Everglades of Florida to the Farm Supply Center, here, early this summer.

Although the workers could easily earn more money in the South they showed their preference for Northern accommodations shortly after their arrival in Miami early in May.

In their temporary American home, the Bahamans take every advantage of the recreational facilities at their disposal. Religious services are held each Tuesday and Sunday and Movies and radio concerts are greatly in demand.

One of the men, Bertram Lord, is organizer and conductor of a ten-piece orchestra composed of his fellow workers. The group unanimously selected Count Basie as its favorite American band with Jimmie Lunceford as a close runner-up. They heard Basie's recordings most frequently in their homes on the island.

Their chief difficulty, they said, was in learning to adjust their appetites to "American-style" cooking. They do, however, expect to become accustomed to it before their departure, "after the duration."

Brown Americans No Farm Lovers—Survey

Afro-American Baltimore, Md

N.C. Sociologist Sees Dixie Farms Deserted Entirely in Few Decades

RALEIGH, N.C. (ANP) — The common belief that colored Americans are rural residents of the South; that they prefer farm areas and are found in greater numbers there than are white Americans is false, according to a recent survey, "Negro Residence."

The survey, conducted by Dr. Selz C. Mayo, rural sociologist with the agricultural experiment station at State College here, reveals that in every major region of the U.S. the colored population in urban centers is higher than the white percentage.

Dr. Mayo emphasized that if the colored citizen of the South continues the migration to urban areas that he has followed for the past 123 years, within a few decades it is possible that he will have deserted the farm almost entirely.

Cites Migration to Cities

According to the survey, in 1940, 19.8 per cent of the total non-white population in this State was located in urban centers of 2,500 population and over. Only 26.3 per cent of the white population was in these towns and cities.

Since 1820, the sociologist says, Federal census figures indicate a large non-white urban population that has increased more rapidly, and always in a higher proportion, than has the white population in cities.

In 1820, the percentage of white population in urban centers was 1.4, the non-white, 3.1. By 1900, the non-white city population was 12.1 per cent, and the white, 8.8 per cent.

In 1910, the percentage of the white population in urban cities was 13.5 and non-white, 16.4; in 1920, white 18.8, and non-white 20.0; in 1930, white was 25.2 and non-white, 26.3.

Colored Percentage Greater

Dr. Mayo's research reveals also that the largest percentage of the colored urban population is located in North Carolina's five cities of 50,000 people and over. The same is true, he states, of the white population, but not in a comparable percentage.

For colored, the percentage is 40.3, whereas for the white population it is only 34.2.

The second highest ranking size city is 10,000 to 24,999. Here 24.9 per cent of the colored urban population is located, and 25.2 per cent is white. However, the towns of 2,500 to 9,999 population, the percentage of white far exceeds the percentage of colored.

National Figures Quoted

For the United States as a whole, Dr. Mayo points out, the percentage of the white population in cities is higher than the colored. These figures are 57.3 per cent for whites and 47.8 for colored.

In every major region in the United States, however, the percentage of the colored population in urban centers is higher than the white, he says, due to the fact that the majority of the colored population is located in the South where the predominant occupation remains farming.

Dr. Mayo has drawn the following conclusions from his survey:

First, the colored citizen is proportionately more urbanized than the white as measured by residence. Secondly, data for North Carolina shows that colored persons prefer to live in larger urban centers and are under-represented in the smaller towns and cities.

35f-1943
Knoxville, Tenn. Journal
July 28, 1943

Bahamian Bean Pickers To Assist E-T Growers

Four hundred Bahamian Negroes will arrive in Johnson and Carter counties next week, to help with the harvesting of the estimated million dollar bean crop, A. J. Sims, extension editor of the University of Tennessee Agriculture Extension Service, said last night.

In addition, 600 Negroes from West Tennessee are due to arrive for the harvesting.

One hundred and fifty of the Bahamian bean pickers and their families are coming this week. The rest will arrive next week.

Sims said that reports of the imported laborer's work is "very satisfactory" in Florida where they have been employed for the last two months.

The agricultural extension division is responsible in each state for the recruiting of farm labor under a provision of the War Food Administration act, recently passed by Congress, Sims said. Both Negro groups were recruited by the United States Employment Service for the Agricultural Extension Division.

The imported Negroes are obtained through an agreement made by the U. S. Department of Agriculture with the British government. Housing facilities, in the form of camps, are provided by the Farm Security Administration, Sims explained.

"We also plan to recruit 4-H Club members, Boy Scouts and school children from near and around Knoxville before the middle of August," Sims stated.

"Those recruited will be divided into groups of about 20 and are to work under the leadership of 4-H Club and Scout Patrol leaders," he explained. "By limiting the young workers to small groups we expect to make supervision of the work easier and more efficient."

The housing of the young pickers will be provided in adequate camps to be set up by the extension service. "Every possible precaution will be taken to provide them with comfortable, safe living conditions," Sims said.

Jacksonville, Fla., Times-Union
August 2, 1943

Florida Negro Farm Workers Reach Camden

CAMDEN, N. J., Aug. 1, (UP)—A special train carrying 434 migrant negro farm workers was welcomed today at the Campbell Soup Company plant here while Florida officials threatened an investigation of alleged labor piracy.

The workers, recruited from the ranks of citrus pickers and packers in the Orange County, Fla. area, will help pack tomatoes during the rush season at the cannery and will live in a warehouse made into a dormitory.

Donald Henderson, international president of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America, CIO, which holds a contract with the soup plant, hailed the migration as "a unique example of labor, management and government co-operation to relieve a manpower shortage in a war production area."

Robert E. Worden, Campbell personnel director, said the company appreciated the efforts of the War Manpower Commission in recruiting the workers and in providing furniture for the dormitory. He said the company would co-operate with the union and the WMC in returning the workers to Florida when their jobs there were open again.

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

Jamaican, Bahaman Negroes Help Raise U. S. Farm Crops

JUN 27 1943

BY SIGRID ARNE

PHILADELPHIA—(AP)—The car swung in through a hedge to a neat, bunk houses. We heard a queer sound from a long building which looked like an Army mess hall. "Click. Clack. Clack. Click."

"Dominoes," explained McDonald, the FSA man who was driving. "They play dominoes with a fine fury."

JUN 27 1943

We looked through the mess hall door. Negroes in sweaters and work pants hunched over tables slapping down dominoes a though their lives depended on it. Some wore fantastic hats. Wide brims and tall, conical crowns.

JUN 27 1943

These men were some of the 6,000 Jamaican and Bahaman Negro farm hands who have been brought into the United States in the last month to help save crops in the face of labor shortage.

They're housed mostly in farm security camps for migrant labor. This camp was near Bridgeton, N. J., where the men are working on tomatoes, asparagus, peas, beans—and later, on peaches and apples.

The Jamaicans have been a little slow to learn. But once trained they work carefully, for 10 hours a day. They come from a Negro country. It's a British colony, a fact which lends to amusing situations when the Jersey farmer runs into his first Jamaican.

JUN 27 1943

MANY OF THEM HAVE CLIPPED, British accents that are quite surprising coming from a Negro field hand. I was talking to one Jamaican about recreation, who told me, "we're rather fond of cricket, you know. But we're having extreme difficulty acquiring the gear.

JUN 27 1943

Both groups have come into the country under contracts between our government and the governments of Jamaica and the Bahamas.

First, all hands were given physical exams to prevent importation of disease. To keep them healthy here, each camp has an Army mobile clinic.

Second, the labor is here only on temporary immigration visas, and they may work only on farms.

Third, our government had to guarantee minimum wages: 75 cents a day from the date of entry until they go to work; $3 a day minimum for three-quarters of the time they're here.

The Jamaicans must send home $1 a day, the Bahamans 75 cents. It's deducted from their pay by the farmer who employes them.

The Jamaicans may not be employed below the Mason-Dixon Line. They come from a country without color prejudice, and their government wished to spare them unpleasant incidents.

The cold weather caused some trouble. The men couldn't work, but they still drew that guaranteed 75 cents a day.

JUN 27 1943

At work they make $4.50 a day right now. During the bean season they'll make $10 to $12 a day.

Both Jamaicans and Bahamans had been huddling unhappily in cheap sweaters because of the cold. But there is as yet no provision to heat their bunk houses.

The food has been another headache. They don't know, or like, our green vegetables. They prefer one-dish meals with rice as the base, and meat or fish added.

The Army mess sergeants, cooking for the camps, couldn't get the hang, so Jamaican cooks are being rushed in.

JUN 27 1943

And the islanders have such a terrific sweet tooth that FSA finally had to get triple sugar rations for them. But despite the grumbling and dickering and adjustments, the communities employing the imports seem happy. They remember last Autumn.

JUN 27 1943

Then the original field hands, Italians and Southern Negroes, were disappearing like mist into war plants.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

BAHAMAS RIOT IN FLORIDA CAMP; TROOPS CALLED

Hastings, Fla., June 3 (AP).—companies of the Florida state gu were called today to assist cers in maintaining order follow a disturbance last night at a c housing Bahama [illegible] ported to help harvest the po

JUN 4 1943

Birmingham, Ala.
Age-Herald

MEXICO RESTRICTS LABORERS TO U. S.

MEXICO CITY—To prevent la bor shortage in Mexico, the author ities will cut to a minimum the number of farm laborers recruited for service in the United States. Agrarian officials have been assigned to hand pick the workers who can be spared.

Greene said two were arrested. but all was quiet today and most of the Bahamans were back at work in the potato fields.

Constable Archie Greene said two Bahamans were shot during the brawl and about 100 participated. Between 600 and 800 participated, but he did not know the cause of the disorder. Two state guard foreman of the camp where the la assist offborers, some following tered called for a camp Negroes began throwing milk bot workers im ne potatoes.

ISLAND LABOR GETS BIG FARM PAY HERE

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

Negroes From Bahamas and Jamaica Earn $3 a Day, as Against 50 Cents at Home

JUN 27 1943

U. S. TO IMPORT 15,000

6,000 Already Tilling Fields in North Under Contracts—Have British Accents

PHILADELPHIA, June 26 (AP)—The car swung in through a hedge to a rolling field dotted with small, neat, bunk houses. This writer heard a queer sound from a long building which looked like an army mess hall. "Click, clack, clack, click."

JUN 27 1943

"Dominoes," explained Mr. McDonald, the Farm Security Administration man who was driving. "They play dominoes with a fine fury."

Through the mess hall door, we saw Negroes in sweaters and work pants hunched over tables slapping down dominoes as though their lives depended on it. Some wore fantastic hats—wide brims and tall, conical crowns.

JUN 27 1943

"Dominoes are the only recreation they have so far," said Mr. McDonald. "It's one of the problems."

These men were some of the 6,000 Jamaican and Bahaman Negro farm hands who have been brought into the United States in the last month to help save crops in the face of the labor shortage.

They are housed mostly in farm security camps for migrant labor. This camp was near Bridgeton, N. J., where the men are working on tomatoes, asparagus, peas, beans. Later they will work on peaches and apples. Other such groups are spotted now in New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, New York, Connecticut, Michigan and Idaho. There are 3,000 in the Philadelphia area. It is planned to bring in a total of 15,000 or more.

Are Here Under Contracts

The Jamaicans seem to be the preferred group. They drink very little. At home, they say, they drink a little rum. But here it's too expensive. They have been insistent about religious services that FSA is beating the bushes for volunteer ministers to visit the camps.

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The Jamaicans have been a little slow to learn. But once trained they work carefully for ten hours a day. At home they worked on sugar cane and banana plantations or in rum distilleries. Here, they had to shift to green vegetables, some of which they have never seen before. They still do not like to eat them. They prefer one-dish meals, with rice as the base and meat or fish added. They are fond of sweets.

The Jamaicans come from a Negro country, a British colony. Many of them have clipped, British accents that are quite surprising coming from a Negro field hand.

Both groups have come into the country under contracts between our government and the governments of Jamaica and the Bahamas.

Despite the grumbling and dickering and adjustments, the communities employing the imports seem happy.

The Jamaicans may not be employed below the Mason-Dixon line. Their pay by the [illegible] employs them. The deductions [illegible] transfers the money [illegible] the home govern- [illegible] $12 a day.

[illegible] can allocate this [illegible] sent home: to his [illegible] his personal bank [illegible] can divide it. That [illegible] come governments [illegible] a cushion when [illegible] to hunt jobs.

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BAHAMANS ARRIVE IN U. S. TO HARVEST CROPS IN WAR EFFORT



Two thousand natives of Bahama recently arrived in the United States where they will be distributed on various farms to relieve the shortage of farm labor and save a 20,000 acre wartime bean crop in Florida. Above are photos of the natives. Left: Billy McKenzie and his wife, Analine, shown as they arrived in Miami recently. Center photo: This smiling native girl is happy harvesting beans on the P. M. Cate farm near Pahokee, Fla. Last photo: The imported workers have their first meal in America. They are shown having a bit of chow shortly after their arrival.

250 D.C. Laborers Go To Pittsburgh

Defender
Chicago Ill.

JUN 5 1943

WASHINGTON—(ANP) — Two hundred and fifty unskilled Negro laborers [illegible] quota this city is expected to furnish the Pittsburgh plants of the huge steel mills, now threatened with labor shortages. Many Negroes were registered with the United States Employment service for jobs with the firms needing men, including many former workers, unemployed because of curtailment of construction work in the District.

Although workers will receive less wages per hour in the steel plants than in construction, they anticipated that their total earnings will be increased because they will be able to work steadily indoors, uninterrupted by rain or winter weather. Out of the first contingent of 91 migrants recruited here last week for similar jobs, only two have returned saying they couldn't "take it."

Bahamians Stage Riot At Hastings

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

JUN 1 1943

HASTINGS, Fla.—Harvesting of crops was unexpected to continue here Friday after a partial work stoppage Thursday as the result of a free-for-all fight at a migratory labor camp here for Bahamian farm laborers.

Home defense units and state police patrolled the area Thursday while more than half of the 1,200 camp residents returned to the fields, Paul Van der Schouw, regional farm security administration official, who came here to investigate the trouble, said the remainder of the workers would resume work Friday.

Van der Schouw said the fight started among two or three Bahamian workers in a small mess hall. Although several hundred Bahamian men and women joined in the riot, he said only one person was injured, a Negro woman who was struck on the head with a club.

The disturbance was the first report of serious trouble among the workers since the Bahamians were imported to Florida two months ago to assist in harvesting crops.

It is to be hoped that this has been the first and last of these unnecessary confusions.

Duke Says Riots Won't Affect Bahaman Workers

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

JUL 3 1943

NEW YORK—Referring to the Detroit race riots, the Duke of Windsor, new governor of the Bahama Islands, told a press conference Thursday that he did not think race troubles in America would affect the current plan of sending Bahaman workers to this country.

He also said he doubted that the turbulence in the United States would affect the 65,000 Bahamians, the majority of whom are colored.

"The Bahamans are a very orderly people," the Duke added. "Of course, the usual hoodlums take charge of any disturbance and make it greater. There is always an element who won't work, never have worked and never will."

Bristol, Va., Herald-Courier
September 25, 1943

TRAINING OF NEGRO LABOR IS PROPOSED

EDGEWATER PARK, Miss., Sept. 24. (AP)—Training and employment of Negro labor in the south is necessary, or the region will lose 25 per cent of its normal labor supply, personnel executives from six southeast states were told yesterday.

Dr. Ira Reid, director of Sociology at Atlanta University, said the migration of trainees and skilled labor from the southeast "is already high" and added that it threatened not only war production but also plans for post-war reconstruction.

What They Never Mention

Charleston, S. C. Courier

When we tell the colored people of the South that the effort of the agitators is to intern them in the South, to prevent them sharing in this age of movement, of travel, of finding new homes and new employment, which is enjoyed by Southern white men, we offer as proof of it that the agitators never mention that Southern negroes do not migrate to the wheat fields of Kansas, the dairy farms of Wisconsin, the corn fields of Iowa, October

There is no law against Southern colored people seeking new homes in other parts of the country—there is no law against it. The facts are against it. The facts are that only to the cities, to the negro "ghettos" (we quote that word because it is the word of a Northern negro champion) in those cities, do the Southern negroes go.

White Southerners are not interned in the South. They are welcome in every village, in Tonawanda as well as in Chicago. The Southern colored people are practically denied the right of dwelling in the North except in a few segregated city districts. They can't eat in the rural North unless they get jobs. They can't live unless they eat. (This, the agitators never mention.)

No one wishes the colored man or woman satisfied in the South to leave it.

The "negro problem", so far as it is a problem, is now more Northern than Southern, and so it will be as long as the North and West shall quietly, sternly, inflexibly,

railroad brotherhoods were deciding on taking a strike vote. The difference is that the Jamaicans will be sent home. Americans, who refuse to work in the country's hour of dire distress, will just stay at home.

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s refused to work and

The Difference

Miami, Fla. Herald
October 25, 1943

NINE HUNDRED Jamaican negroes, brought into this country last spring as farm labor, were not adequate. At the same time thousands of American coal miners refused to work and are in process of being returned from Flor

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Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Jamaicans Send $400,000 Home

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WASHINGTON—Jamaican workers who have come here to help relieve the farm labor shortage sent nearly a half million dollars back home during July and August, officials of the War Food Administration report. Part of the money was given their families and the remainder was placed in savings accounts.

Recent reports show that there are 8,768 Jamaicans in the country doing farm work in Northern and Western states. The largest number, 1,529, are in New York; there are 1,275 in Connecticut; 1,267 in Michigan; and far west as Idaho there are 556. While some Jamaican workers earn only modest wages, $3, $4 or $5 per day, others sometimes earn as much as $15 per day. The wide differential is possible because the recruits do not always work for an hourly rate; often they perform piece work jobs.

In checking over the amount sent home by the Jamaican workers, WFA officials reveal that between July 1 and September 1 the islanders sent a total of 109,000 pounds (sterling) or approximately $440,000.

Migration and the Army Have Stripped Dixie

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Afro-American

Nearly Every Home Has Sent a Boy to "Freedom Land"

ONE WHOLE CHURCH HAS MOVED NORTH

Baltimore, Maryland
NOV 27 1943

Insurance Company Agent Collects His Premiums by Mail

By MICHAEL CARTER

COLUMBIA, S.C.—The migration of colored people from the South to the relative freedom of the North is petering out.

There are two reasons for this: first, most of them have already gone; second, legal restrictions are tying others to low-paid farm jobs where they have become serfs. But an estimated 600,000 have fled to the North.

The AFRO sent Michael Carter into South Carolina, a typical Southern State where race hate is at a high level, to make a report on the northward migration.

NEXT WEEK
West Virginia's 36,000 Colored Miners

A few months ago, when the exodus was in full swing, the Seaboard, Southern and other railroads put extra jim-crow cars on their even-numbered trains. Even-numbered trains run north.

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Cars Not Enough

A Seaboard passenger agent told the AFRO: "We had to put on extra cars to hold the colored folks. One car, or a half car, will hold them now."

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The bus operators said the same thing: "We hardly had enough seats for the white folks. 'Nigras' took up so much room in the back of our buses. It has dwindled down now, and they are not coming home for visits on the bus. I guess they make a lot of money up there and come back on the trains."

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A ticket agent in the Columbia station said: "I work the colored window and the white windows, too. Once we had to have an extra person on the colored window. I used to see many young men going north. Now it has changed: I see the old folks and the children going."

Farms Hit Hard

Out on the farms I saw two generations of people—the very old, the children and the cripples. Youth has gone either to war or to the North. But every white farm owner or storekeeper I talked to expected them to come back "down home," hat in hand, ready for the plow.

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These landlords said: "After the war is over, they'll be coming back and be mighty glad to be back."

William H. Harvey, Columbia branch manager of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, said:

"We had a larger migration in the past year than ever before. And the people who go up there are sending back money to keep up their policies. Those who have died in the North are almost always sent back here for burial.

Want Families to Follow

"They are now sending back for their parents and children. Until the housing shortage in the North became so acute, they would regularly send for their families. Now they are just sending money until they can get homes for them.

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"People on the farms are pretty badly treated and a man does not like to leave his family down there. The farm owners sometimes take out resentment on the people who stay.

Few Appear Thrifty

"Before the war, colored men here were earning $4 and $5 a week. God is in this war for the colored man. He goes north, earns some money, and when he comes back for a visit he buys a dollars worth of fish. I've seen them buy a nickel's worth of fish for Sunday dinner."

Harvey says he sees no evidence of thrift on the part of the migrants. White people in the South are using this as an argument against race migration and the employment of colored people on war jobs. They say there is no point in giving the colored worker jobs with good pay because he is not saving any money.

Professionals Worried

The migration of colored people has not only caused the whites considerable alarm, it has also worried the colored professional class. One doctor told me:

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"I daresay there is scarcely a home in this county that has not had one move. Now they are sending for their parents and their children and younger relatives. If we lose too many families there won't be any need for so many colored teachers and doctors here.

"Yet, I'm glad to see them go. I'm glad to see them leave the $5-a-week jobs and humiliation of the South."

Legal Barriers Hold Many

Harold Boulware, Washington Street lawyer, handles scores of cases from would-be migrants who can't get releases from the United States Employment Service (USES) or their employers.

"Most of the people who come in here are either mothers with sons in the army, or young people who want to go north but can't get releases. I refer them to the USES."

The USES in Columbia, an all-white office, pays no attention to the problems of the colored migrant. The day I went to the USES I saw colored men asking—one was begging—for a release. (The farm workers call the release a "relief.")

Clerks Not Helpful

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The clerks were neither helpful nor polite. Unless the migrant wants to sacrifice three months' wages he cannot leave the State without a release.

Under recent legislation, you can't quit one "essential job" for another without a three-month period of unemployment. Farming for $25 a month or less is an "essential" job.

Many white employers are taking advantage of the plight of colored farmers. An arrangement like this is frequently made:

Workers Duped

A colored farm worker arranges with a white farmer to give one month's free work if, after that time, the farmer will sign a release. At the expiration of the month the farmer, in many instances, refuses to live up to his end of the bargain. The colored man is then stuck again.

I found one or two colored business men who had made, and kept, the same bargain with other colored people.

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In April of this year, a white labor agent was arrested for recruiting colored labor in South Carolina. But other agents, who were recruiting farm help for nearby tobacco farms, were unmolested.

The State officials of South Carolina deny that there are any special State laws to deprive the colored man of his right to move. They insist that South Carolina is simply carrying out the Federal law.

Church Moves North

The Rev. S. S. Youngblood, Columbia pastor, reports that his congregation has practically moved to the North.

"We've had numbers of our people go," he said. "They usually go straight up past Philadelphia so they don't have to change trains. Many of them are in Englewood, N.J., Waterbury, Conn., and just a few have gone to Chicago.

"Several have moved to Brooklyn, but they don't like it. Nobody seems to like Brooklyn.

"Not one of them says he is coming back after the war. I like to see them go north, but it hurts to see old friends leave town."

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Attitude of Whites Worse

A farm agent from one of the southern counties said:

"The attitude of the whites is worse than before the war. They resent their cheap labor supply's moving off. We have four war-prisoner camps in the northern part of the State, taking up where the colored man stopped his plow.

"There are no local restrictions on migration. Colored people were leaving here by the hundreds before the national law stopped it. The only other reason they are not going in such numbers now is that they have all gone. The farms are stripped."

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College Loses Many

President J. J. Starks, Benedict College, said: "We had a carload of boys leaving here this summer, and one of our professors left. Most of the boys had jobs before they left and others had promises of jobs or friends already employed up there."

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Down in the farming counties, aged women still smoke pipes on their front steps. They are generally afraid to talk to strangers. After proving that I was really an AFRO employee—no easy task with a slightly deaf, illiterate woman—I heard this story:

Son in Army, 2 in North

"One of my boys is in the army and the other two are up north. The labor man took the first one away and he sent for his younger brother—that's Harold—now he's sent for his children and Mary—that's old man Martin's daughter; he married her, you know—and now they want me to come up.

"The captain here used to read their letters to me, but now he seems to get all het up when he reads about the money my boys are making. I get the colored lawyer to read them for me now. I can't see so NOV 1943 without my glasses."

Whole Family Moving

On the train between Columbia, S.C., and Raleigh, N.C., another family was moving. A man had come back down south for his family and children. A shoe box lunch of cold turnip greens, Royal Crown Cola, fried chicken and fish, sweet potato pie and a dish of chitterlings gave the trip a picnic touch, and the car an air.

The man, a Sperry Gyroscope worker in Brooklyn, N.Y., was moving his entire family north. Their dog was in the baggage car, which was the first half of the jim-crow car.

Farewell Expression

"I got nothing in South Carolina and there's nothing here I want—ever," the man told me.

When the train passed Cheraw, S.C., the man got up, went to an open window and spit a mouthful on Governor Olin Johnston's State. "I hope I never NOV 2 1943 jim-crow station again."

I leaned out of another window and watched the blob of invective. It landed right in front of the sign that said, "WAITING ROOM, WHITE, CHERAW, S.C."

Biddle Wants Negroes Kept In Dixie

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

New York.—A sweeping proposal to completely halt all Negro migration from the South to Northern war jobs has been given President Roosevelt by Attorney-General Francis Biddle, the New York Post said this week.

Outlining in detail the Attorney General's plan to create rigid bars against Negro families moving out of the Dixie farm belt, the Post said the proposal was made as an ostensible program to stop race riots.

The drastic step is alleged to have been asked on the basis of an investigation by the Depart-

...that the hot summer-death toll but this report is followed by an appeal to the Presi-
...was a factor in the Biddle pro-
...action, claiming that While there was no denial or
...mer weather was a confirmation of the story, several
...racial outbreaks and pointing out dent to place barriers against any
...that more than a month of summer further Negro migration into the
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...commission could close completelysed the urgent need for immediate much sooner would

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

Pa. Migrant Workers Forced to Live In Chicken Coops; Two Burn to Death

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

QUAKERTOWN, Pa.—The state will seek the conviction of Edward O. Mastin for the deaths of Willie Cooper and Mrs. Odell [illegible], Negro migratory workers who were burned to death here, August 17, in a barn on the Mastin farm on Route No. 2. It is expected that the case will be tried early in October.

A personal investigation by John Grantham, president of the Lehigh Valley NAACP Branch, revealed that the victims were two of fifty migratory workers who were brought from Florida by a white contractor to gather in the tomato crop on the Mastin farm. Tomatoes picked by these workers are sold to the government through the Campbell Soup Company.

Most of the workers are housed in chicken coops; the largest being about 7 feet square and only 5 feet in height. Grantham said in his report, "workers along with their children are living in these small chicken coops—and these little coops, even if they were fit to live in, are too small for a couple to live in comfortably—but the most horrible thing of all is that nearly every worker has a large family and he and his family live in these small houses.

Though dissatisfied with the conditions under which they have been forced to live, the workers said that they have not been able to earn their railroad fare.

The deceased persons were living in a barn and were burned to death at midday when they were trapped by a fire on the third floor. There was only one exit and one of the workers suffered a broken back when he attempted to leap from a window; another was severely burned.

At the coroner's hearing at Quakertown on August 27th, the coroner's jury held Mastin responsible for the death of the two workers. Prentice Thomas, member of the NAACP national legal staff attended the hearings.

Evidence presented at the hearing showed that several families lived in the barn. Some of the persons [illegible] in which they cooked. The barn was filled with hay and other inflammable material. There were no fire escapes, the only exit being through one door and the windows.

District Attorney Edward Blister, Doylestown, Pa., said that in order for the state to make its case it will be necessary for Claude Jackson, one of the workers who last saw the deceased persons alive, to appear as a witness. Jackson has agreed to remain in the state.

Trend Of Southern Negroes To Cities Shown By Dr. Mayo

Charlotte, N. C., Observer
December 13, 1943

A common belief is that the Negro is a rural resident of the South, that he prefers farm areas and that he is found in correspondingly greater numbers there than is the white man.

But Dr. Selz C. Mayo, rural sociologist with the Agricultural Experiment Station at State College, explodes that idea in a recent paper based upon Federal census figures, "Negro Residence."

According to Dr. Mayo's research, in 1940, 29.8 per cent of the total nonwhite population in the state was located in urban centers of 2,500 population and over. By contrast, only 26.3 per cent of the white population was in these towns and cities.

This higher percentage of nonwhite city residents is not a recent development, Dr. Mayo points out. On the contrary, since 1820, the Federal census figures have shown an increasingly large nonwhite urban population that has increased more rapidly, and always in a higher proportion, than has the white population in cities.

In that year, 1820, the percentage of white population in urban centers was 1.4, the nonwhite, 3.1. By 1900, the nonwhite city population was 12.1 per cent, and the white, 8.8 per cent.

Since then, the trend has continued, Dr. Mayo says, in 1910, the percentage of the white population in urban centers was 13.5 and nonwhite 16.4; in 1920, white 18.8 and nonwhite 20.0; in 1930, white was 25.2 and nonwhite 26.3.

SIZE OF TOWNS.

The second point which the report discusses is that of the percentage of distribution of white and Negro urban populations by the size of the center.

Dr. Mayo points out that the largest percentage of the Negro urban population is located in North Carolina's five cities of 50,000 people and over. The same is true of the white population, but not in a comparable percentage.

For Negroes, the percentage is 40.3, whereas for the white population it is only 34.2.

The second highest ranking size city is 10,000 to 24,999. Here, 24.9 per cent of the Negro urban population is located, and 25.2 per cent of the white.

However, in towns of 2,500 to 9,999 population, the percentage of white far exceeds the percentage of Negroes.

UNITED STATES.

For the United States as a whole, Dr. Mayo says the percentage of the white population in cities is higher than the percentage of Negroes. These figures are 57.3 per cent for whites, and 47.8 per cent for Negroes.

In every major region in the United States, however, the percentage of the Negro population in urban centers is higher than the white percentage, he says. But the reason for this apparent contradiction is that the majority of the Negro population is located in the South where the predominant occupation remains farming.

In spite of this point, however, he emphasizes that if the colored population of the South continues the migration to urban areas that it has followed for the past 123 years, within a few decades it is possible that the Negro will have almost entirely left the farm.

FARM FIGURES.

In contrast to Dr. Mayo's chart on the percentage of the population in urban centers, he has drawn up a chart showing the per cent of the population in rural-nonfarm areas.

For the entire country, the per cent of the white population that is located on these areas is 21.0, and the per cent of the Negro population is 16.6.

In North Carolina, for example, these comparable figures are, per cent of whites on rural-nonfarm areas, 28.7; Negroes, 20.6.

Hand of KKK Seen in Labor Leader's Arrest

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

(Special to the Daily Worker)

ORLANDO, Fla., Aug. 13.—A sinister tie-up between Ku Klux Klan forces and anti-labor fruit growers and shippers aided by the State Attorney General's office forms the background to the arrest of Otis G. Nation, CIO leader, on charges of violating Florida's new law against recruiting workers for out-of-the-state jobs.

Nation, chairman of the Florida Citrus and Allied Workers Union, was arrested after he cooperated with the War Manpower Commission and the Campbell Soup Co. in ending a labor shortage in Camden, N. J. Tomatoes, ordered by the Army, were saved from spoilage when 483 workers from Orange County here went East to pack them.

SOME FACTORS

Here are some of the factors behind Nation's arrest, according to his own story:

1. Big shippers and growers here, especially in the citrus counties, have been pressing [illegible] for months despite the fact that there's no labor shortage. They seek a reserve supply to keep wages down and even sought to import labor from the Bahamas. Bahamans would be told "accept our working conditions and wages or be deported."

2. When the union cooperated with the War Manpower Commission and the Campbell Soup Co., by turning its lists of unemployed members over to the U.S. Employment Service, both prosecutors and tax collectors stepped into the picture and tried to break it up. They tried to make the union pay prohibitive taxes, required by state law from all but government agencies recruiting workers for out-of-the-state jobs.

3. When the union refused to pay the taxes and explained that recruiting was being done by the War Manpower Commission, individual workers were called in and questioned by Prosecutor O. Raymond Ellars, who warned them against "northern city slickers" and paid them $2 if they gave testimony he wanted, nothing if they didn't.

4. Unionists who persisted in their determination to take Camden tomato packing jobs were picked up by the County Sheriff. One was arrested for vagrancy and fined $25.

5. Mr. [illegible], a Campbell Co. representative, was called on the telephone by a person giving his name as Banks and advised to remain in his room and not attend a union meeting. Banks, according to Nation's report, said that he was a member of the Ku Klux Klan and knew what he was talking about.

6. Heap was later contacted by Fred Bass, state head of the Ku Klux Klan, according to Nation who reports that Bass said: "I want you to know, Mr. Heap, that we have word that a member of the Klan called you and made a threat against you if you attended a union meeting. The Klan can't afford any publicity right now and we are not mixed up in this thing at all." Heap had already attended the union meeting at time of the meeting with Bass, Nation said.

SLACK SEASON

Despite all these obstacles, 483 unionists, idle because of the slack citrus season, left Orlando for Camden, July 31. Nation's arrest followed.

The Florida CIO Industrial Union Council, rallying in support of Nation, this week accused Attorney General Tom Watson with "willful obstruction" of the war effort as part of a program to smash union activities in the state.

"Watson's quarrel is with the U.S. government, not with the CIO," said William Smith, regional CIO director.

"He has banded himself together with leaders of the citrus industry in an effort to prevent the organization of citrus workers into unions.

"In order to accomplish this end, they are willing to obstruct the country's war program, are willing to hold hundreds of workers idle during the summer while food plants in other parts of the country are closing for lack of labor."

Charles M. Smelikoff, Miami CIO leader, said that charges are being filed with the U.S. District Attorney, against Orlando police officials for violation of civil liberties of workers detained after the train left.

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'Black Paper' Tells Jamaicans They Will Face Discrimination In Dixie

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

By HARRY McALPIN
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON.—The State Department has issued "white papers" on various incidents and situations involving the foreign relations of this country and others. This is a story of a "black paper" unearthed by the Defender, affecting the welfare of more than 10,000 Jamaicans imported to this country to help solve the farm labor problem.

This "black paper," a communication to the Jamaican workers from Herbert G. McDonald, liaison officer representing the Jamaican government, tells of the repeal of the various protective clauses of the contract under which the Jamaicans were induced to come to this country, assigns them to work in the South, tells them of the discriminations they will face and warns them that their conduct will be closely watched. They are also advised that their contracts may be cancelled for misconduct or "indiscipline," or for no reason at all—even bad weather.

Sent South

Through June, 1943, Jamaicans were assigned to states in the North and West only. These states were Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, and Idaho. The reason given was that they were not accustomed to discrimination current in the South. Now they are to be sent to Florida to work in the sugar cane fields.

Here is the communication signed by Mr. McDonald, dated September 30, which speaks for itself:

"I have just returned from a short visit to Jamaica where your well being and future stay in the United States was discussed by representatives of the two governments. The question was further fully discussed by elected and nominated members.

"All workers of good character and working efficiently who wish to remain in the United States are to be given opportunity. Therefore, you are asked to go to Florida, which is nearer to Jamaica and is warm in the winter.

"Work will be confined to sugar cane. Conditions as to working conditions, housing, etc., have been investigated and found satisfactory. As a general rule, all work in Florida is given out on piece-work basis. You will be housed in groups of not less than 50; and arrangements are being made for you all to be fed in camp as facilities for feeding yourselves elsewhere are not available."

(Editor's note: This violates that section of the contract which provides that "workers shall not be required to purchase goods or services for their personal consumption or use at any sources not of their choice." It opens the way for the exploiting and unscrupulous plantation owners to make "deductions" from the lawful pay due these workers.)

Cites Rape Punishment

"Distinction is made in Florida with colored people, and you must be careful and endeavor to help the position, as by your conduct you will be judged.

"It is well to tell you for the sake of general information that there is a law in many southern states, including Florida, which makes rape punishable by death. This, of course is a very serious offense anywhere, but there it is viewed even more seriously.

"There will be ample opportunity for you to make friends with the colored people as every city and town has its colored section. You will be free to purchase wherever you wish, but there are certain places of amusement, restaurants and bars where you will not be allowed.

"It has been decided that no wives can be sent from Jamaica.

Contract Differs

"You will be asked to sign a new contract different from the old in the following respects:

"1. It will afford you employment for the winter months at least.

"2. Misconduct and 'indiscipline' clause has been added, which gives the United States government the right to terminate the contract if the worker misconducts himself.

"3. The United States government can terminate the contract with one month's notice in event of any fundamental change in the war situation or any other circumstances including any sudden changes in the weather, rendering continued employment of the worker unnecessary.

(Editor's note: The old contract provided that the workers shall be employed for at least 75 per cent of the periods of employment, exclusive of Sundays or one other day in each seven, specified in their contracts with the U. S. government.)

"4. The word 'Sunday' has been taken out so that your one day of rest in seven is not necessarily Sunday.

"5. Where meals are provided in camp and I AM SATISFIED they are all right, you will be REQUIRED to eat there.

"6. After you have signed the contract, it will be witnessed by someone appointed by me who must satisfy himself that you understand what you are signing.

"There is a slight possibility that the success of the Florida venture might well influence any future recruitment in Jamaica; and you are asked to bear this in mind as I am sure you would not be wishful of doing anything to hurt the chances of your fellow-men back home."

Thus endeth the "black paper"!

Biddle Denies Job Shift Charge

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON —(ANP)—Francis Biddle Friday denied hat "any effort should be made to prevent the free movement of individuals from one place to another whether colored or white except as war requirements for man power must be met."

His reply to charges that he favored the opposite was revealed Friday in an exchange of letters with Lester Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban League.

NAACP Asks Roosevelt To 'Publicly Repudiate' Plan of Atty. Gen. Biddle

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

New York—President Roosevelt was urged this week to "publicly repudiate" the suggestion of Attorney General Francis Biddle that the movement of Negroes to certain war production centers be limited or stopped, as a means of curbing race riots.

After two stories had appeared in The New York Post based on "authoritative information," the newspaper PM on August 11 published the full text of the confidential memordum from Attorney General Biddle to President Roosevelt, which was dated July 15. Mr. Biddle said the report was based on findings of an FBI man sent to Detroit for this special pob.

The telegram to the President from the NAACP characterized the proposal as "obviously illegal, unsound and destructive of public confidence." It declared: "Implications that the solution to the racial situation lies in imposing special restrictions on Negroes merely aggravates tensions."

The memorandum suggested that Negroes be barred altogethe from Detroit, saying: "It would seem pretty clear that no more Negroes should move into Detroit." Mr. Biddle also advised against the President going on the radio to discuss the racial situation, saying, "This, I think, would be unwise."

In a later statement, Walter White, NAACP secretary said:

"Not even Rankin (Rep. John Rankin of Mississippi) has made so diabolical a proposal.

Shocked

"We are inexpressibly shocked that the chief law enforcement officer of the United States should propose so patent a violation of the Constitutional guarantee that no person 'shall be deprived of—liberty—without the due proces sof law.' The movement of the individual within the confines of his own country is one of the fundamental privileges and rights of citizenship.

"The inequity and injustices of the proposal are appalling. Conceding the right of cities to migrate freely, the Attorney General would condemn Negroes to stay in the South, to work as now at the lowest paying jobs because they are denied in most instances skilled and semi-skilled employment even in war industries, and to put them still further at the mercy of plantation owners and other exploiters of Negro labor. Equally distressing is that a responsible member of the President's cabinet should propose to the Chief Executive an evasion of the clear responsibility of the government to enforce the laws and to deal justly and equally with all citizens.

"In addition the Attorney General's suggestion is an invitation to violation of both the spirit and the letter of the President's Executive Orders 8802 and 9346 prohibiting discrimination in war industries or by the government on account of race, creed, color, or national origin. Those employers who are reluctant to hire Negroes discover an unexpected ally when the Attorney General suggests that Negroes not even be permitted to move into those centers where workers are needed. We condemn and oppose the Attorney General's suggestion."

Biddle Denies

Washington (ANP)—Atty. Gen. Francis Biddle denied this week that he recommended to President Roosevelt that the free movement of Negroes from the South to the North be halted because of the Detroit race riot and increasing racial tension in other large urban areas.

A White House spokesman also denied that such a recommendation had been received from Biddle.

The attorney general's denial was disclosed in an exchange of letters with Lester Granger, National Urban League executive.

Knows Of No

In his letter to Granger. Biddle said: "I would like to emphasize the fact that I know of no present plan to prohibit miration—either private or governmental, either white or Negro—that is now being considered."

Granger wrote to Biddle following publication early last week by the New York Post that in a special report to President Roosevelt on the Detroit riot, the attorney general had recommended, among other things, that Negro migration into certain industrial areas be limited or halted "due to the inability of colored migrants to be absorbed by the community because of their physical limitations or cultural background."

Both the White House and Biddle denied that such a recommendation was made.

Negro Migration

(From The East Tennessee News)

GEORGE S. SCHUYLER, NOTED columnist of New York, is dove-tailing his efforts with the highly influential Pittsburgh Courier in encouraging the migration of Negroes from the South to Northern and Eastern cities. These writers in urging members of the racial group to leave their established homes and interests in the South, describe conditions in other sections as the "gold at the end of the rainbow," and in so advising, are unquestionably doing a vast majority of those who follow such suggestions irreparable injury.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

There is no question but that Northern and Eastern leadership of the Negro race in business, education, religion and affairs political want as many southern Negroes to move into their communities as possible. It is perfectly plain to the most casual observer that such institutions were practically of little importance until the First War period when thousands of Negroes deserted the South for those communities North and East where their patronage was promptly enlisted in support of Negro projects there.

As the Southern brethern invaded their new territory, they did cause the schools, churches and Negro business interests to blossom forth as the green bay tree. At the same time, vexatious and annoying problems developed as concerned the two races, which in many instances, caused our brothers of the North and East to throw up their hands in alarm as they deplored the large influx of Negroes into their otherwise peaceful districts. Many of the Negro highbrows of the Northern and Eastern centers complained of what they termed a lack of culture and the exhibition of disorderly attitudes that served to embarass them greatly.

Rights of citizens of our nation to move to any section of our land or to live wherever they may desire is beyond question, but those who make changes in residence seeking to avoid annoying problems, both racial and economic, will find that all sections, north, south, east or west will furnish annoyances plenty, especially in times like the world is experiencing today. In recent years, Negroes are encountering discriminatory attitudes, prejudice and flagrant hostilities in Boston as well as Birmingham; in Portland in equal proportion as in Pensacola; in Seattle and San Diego. Running away from annoying conditions has never proved a proper or adequate solution of the conditions complained of.

There is not the slightest inclination to wage the contention that educational advantages and working conditions together with ample protection under the law are not far superior in the north and east to those of many sections of the Southland. Notwithstanding such, there are thousands of Negroes who were born in the South: have lived in the South and will continue their residences in the South until they answer the final summons, despite the invitation, urge or "siren song" of many of the colored brethren of the North, who are desirous of having the "mountain placed at the foot of Mohammet."

In fact, judging from the lack of accomplishments of many thousands of young Negroes of the larger cities of the North and East, it is often opined by thoughtful observers that the situations complained of as concerns Negroes of the South would be decidedly remedied if a majority of these northerners would make up their minds to engage in some worthwhile activity and then invade the South for the purpose of lending a helpful hand in offering their services to the thousands of their racial group in rural sections of the South, who need the services of doctors, dentists, mechanics, lawyers and the like. The tendency of many young Negroes to win their degrees in the professions, trek to some large city where they hang out a shingle only to lounge about the office and live from hand to mouth, is true in far too many instances.

The inclination is uppermost in mind to suggest to Mr. Schuyler and our esteemed contemporary, The Pittsburgh Courier, to send well trained Negro young men and women from the large cities of the North and East into the Southern centers, there to join hands with the Negroes and fair-minded whites in correcting the evils complained of. Post-war times will prove most opportune for such movements and eventually the southern portion of our nation will offer the same advantages boasted of by our brethren of the North and East.

KKK Elements Threaten Mexicans Saving Crops

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

SEATTLE, Wash.—Although good samaritans brought here to prevent destruction of valuable pea and potato crops threatened by an acute labor shortage, 500 Mexicans are being subjected to racial antagonism and veiled threats by a reactionary press and Ku Klux Klan elements in the Whatcom County and Skagit Valley areas of the state.

A flagrant attempt to fan anti-Mexican sentiment into violence appeared in the February 6 issue of the Bellingham Labor News, a publication in nowise controlled by labor. The story, supposedly based on the statements of unnamed "leaders of the Cannery Workers Union" at nearby Mt. Vernon, charged that white workers were unwilling to work with the Mexicans and suggested, of its own belief, that the Mexicans' food supply should be reduced.

Fear Outbreak

Investigation, however, proved the charge to be entirely a fabrication. The business agent of the supposedly complaining union, on the contrary, was high in praise of the Mexicans. Prejudice against them had existed at first, he said, but had disappeared when it became a matter of Mexicans and crops or Mexicans and no crops. Not one complaint, he related, had been registered with him. Also flatly denying knowledge of any such anti-Mexican sentiment among white workers was A. R. Traux, head of the local office of the U.S. Employment Service.

That the situation may turn into the bloody casualties of the Los Angeles outbreak is greatly feared because of the brazen activities of the KKK in the area. The Imperial Wizard of the klan once appeared at a public meeting and demanded the ouster of a noted educator at Bellingham, and a few years ago several thousand klansmen put on a bizarre demonstration in a field in Skagit Valley.

Governor Does Nothing

Another disturbing factor is the do-nothing attitude of Governor Langlie, an anti-Willkie Republican. Just as he did nothing to cooperate with the federal government in saving the crops, likewise is he doing nothing to protect the Mexican workers harvesting them for victory.

An ironic note in the matter is that growers in Whatcom County are now trying belatedly to obtain more Mexicans to harvest the 2500-acre potato crop due in September. This crop furnishes the seed for the famous Kern County potatoes in California.

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

SHORTAGE OF LABOR?

THE U. S. DEPARTMENT of the Interior revealed recently that plans are being worked out now to import Puerto Ricans to work on farms and in war industries in this country to relieve the labor shortage here as well as unemployment in Puerto Rico. Not so long ago a similar deal was arranged which brought a number of natives of the Bahamas here for the same purpose.

For the Bahamans and the Puerto Ricans such plans are fine. And if such action can be shown to be definitely needed all well and good. But before applauding it, we are constrained to ask if industry—war and otherwise—has actually used up all the available labor in this country. That's right, we're just wondering about Negro labor for one thing.

We have not yet been assured that Negroes in this country are now receiving full and equal employment opportunity. In fact, we know it's not so. And as long as it isn't so, no claim of labor or manpower shortage has any validity.

We don't think we're being selfish. We have no objections to providing work for the Puerto Ricans, the Bahamians and anybody else who may need work. But it sounds pretty far fetched to reach outside our own continental boundaries to import labor while a considerable supply of qualified manpower still is forced to mark time on the doorsteps of industrialists who insist on withholding democracy as a treasured gift of certain classes, not to be shared by people whose skins are a little darker than their

35g-1943

Birmingham Post
Birmingham, Alabama

NEGRO WORKERS GRANTED RAISE

FEB 10 1943

Pay raises ranging from $1 to $5 a month for Negro employes of the county in a move to adjust and bring the salaries of the workers closer in line were voted by the County Commission at its weekly meeting Tuesday. The raises will approximate $500 a month.

The workers affected are at Hillman and Jefferson Hospitals, Juvenile Court and county home.

Several other matters came before the commission, including approval of a resolution making the salaries of all provisional appointments for permanent positions the same as that of the permanent position for which the appointment is made.

The commission approved an arrangement whereby Thoma Seay is authorized to collect all delinquent accounts and notes due the Jefferson Hospital with a fee of 20 per cent for himself, the fee to be added to the amount of the bills and collected from those owing them.

A reduction on the rent of the Courthouse Grill from $125 a month to $75 a month until expiration of the present lease April 15 was granted B. Randman after he filed application with the commission and declared he could not operate the grill and pay the full amount. A check for $312.50 rent arrears accompanied the request.

FEB 10 1943

On the recommendation of Commissioner Earl Bruner the commission approved the appointment of Willis S. Hood for the county's annual scholarship to the Medical School of the University of Alabama.

Cullman, Ala. Democrat
February 11, 1943

In Mobile County in December, 240 whites and 282 negroes drew an aggregate of $4085 unemployment compensation.

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

APR 15 1943

CLERK IN WHITE BIRMINGHAM STORES

Birmingham, Ala. (ANP)—For the first time in the history of the Birmingham district, Negro girls are employed as clerks in white grocery stores. Unlike other large cities there is still plenty of unemployment among both white and Negro men and especially women of both groups.

White housewives of the wealthy suburbs just out of Birmingham called Mountain Brook, Hollywood and Muntain Terrace, populated by the owners and officials of Birmingham's industry and business, are now served their rations by two bronze youths. These two young women were given jobs as clerks when they answered a newspaper advertisement. The store owner was surprised at their request for jobs but offered them a chance to work.

"They have as much right to work as anybody," he said.

APR 15 1943

obe and Independent
shville, Tenn.

Colored Clerk In White Store in Birmingham

APR 23 1943

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APR 23 1943

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Negro Gets Justice In Anniston Set-up

Weekly Review

ALL AMERICANS RECEIVE JUSTICE AT ALABAMA ORDNANCE DEPOT; NEW SETUP GIVES NEGRO OPPORTUNITY

1943

Birmingham, Ala.

(By R. F. Holtzclaw)

ANNISTON, Ala., April—(ANP)—At long last the Negro is coming into his own, and all places, in the deep south. The Negroes in North Alabama are now being given an opportunity such as they have never had or expected before. Six weeks ago it was announced at the Anniston Ordnance depot that equal opportunity would be granted Negroes to prove their value in the war effort. Immediately, machinery was set in motion to employ Negro personnel. To date one shift at the depot is entirely manned by Negroes.

ALABAMA

The first impression one receives when one approaches the gate of the depot, is of the courtesy of the guards. Once inside the same spirit of good-will permeates the whole depot.

The depot is one of the largest in the country. This makes it even more unique that it should be manned entirely by Negroes on one shift: but this is only the beginning. After May 1, it is the plan to divide the depot into two sections receiving and shipping. In the shipping section, all personnel will be white, and in the receiving section, all of the personnel will be colored on all three shifts.

MAY 1 1943

All this is the brain-child of one man, Capt. W. J. Stout, U.S.A Ordnance department. Against great odds and opposition, Capt. Stout has succeeded in getting the project under way and is sparing no effort to make it a success. He is ably supported by all of his white colleagues, not the least among whom are Capt. B. B. White, Lts. Burger and Bruce, Maj. Aspenall, and civilian Halfacre, Ford Walkley, Love, Clay, Wardell, Dickinson and Powers. All of these are southern white men, and some of the civilians have never been as far north as Nashville.

MAY 1 1943

The present Negro personnel is headed by the Rev. J. Frank Grimmett, a graduate of Talladega college and Gammon Theological seminary. He is now a pastor in Anniston. Rev. Grimmett is chief of Negro personnel.

The chief storekeeper is R. Fulton Holtzclaw, a graduate of Howard university with wide experience as a teacher and labor foreman. Holtzclaw is in charge of all warehouses and general superintendent of the shift. Theodore Fox is chief labor foreman. A graduate of Selma university, Fox has had wide experience in handling men. His brother Charles Fox, is chief shipping clerk. Cralles Fox has studied at Livingston and Tuskegee and has been in the shipping department of Sears Roebuck and Co., for many years.

It is difficult to place the credit for this sudden change in affairs, but one feels disposed to place it squarely on the shoulders of Capt. Stout. All personnel is of the intellectual class and every man is determined to prove that we highly pigmented Americans are just as capable of running an ordnance depot as anyone else.

Jail 3 Ala. Ministers In Work-Fight Drive

Defender

By JOHN LeFLORE
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

MOBILE, Ala. — A police terrorist campaign, waged ostensibly in pursuit of the work-or-fight ordinance, reached its height last week with the arrest of 80 additional Negroes, and no whites, by deputies from the office of Sheriff William H. Holcombe.

Chicago

Open indignation was expressed by colored residents when it was learned that three ministers and a letter-carrier were among those taken into custody in a two-day tirade ending Friday. Fifty-five persons were jailed on Thursday and 25 more the following day, many of the arrests being made at places where white men, standing nearby, were not even questioned by the law officers.

Included among those arrested on Thursday was the Rev. T. J. Hayles, pastor of the Aimwell Baptist church here, which boasts a membership of approximately 1,000 persons. Also taken in the all-colored dragnet were the Rev. Arthur A. Eaton, the Rev. William Tate, and Vincent A. Bassinger, a city letter-carrier.

After their arrest, the men were herded into cars and sped to the county jail. Rev. Hayles stated that he was forced to remain in jail from 3:30 in the afternoon until 8 o'clock that night, and that his release was effected only after a court judge had learned of his plight and phoned a request to release him.

Confined to Negro Section

Bassinger was also released that night. The two other ministers are believed to have gained their freedom the same evening. Many of those arrested, however, are known to have been kept in custody overnight, despite the fact they claimed they could prove they were living within the law.

Chief complaint among the Negro citizens here is that rigid enforcement of the ordinance seemed to have been confined to the colored section of the city. It is also held that large numbers of men were picked up as they were awaiting service at liquor stores. Rev. Hayles was apprehended as he was entering a shoe repair shop on Davis street.

In the southern section of the city, whites and Negroes alike, were standing in separate lines at a liquor store to purchase whiskey or register for that purpose, but only Negroes were questioned and arrested by the officers.

In a statement to the public Sheriff Holcombe is quoted as having said, "These men have time to work in the battle for victory or they have time to stand in line to wait their turn to purchase whiskey or register for the purchase of it. They must be made to realize that idleness and absenteeism will not be tolerated in Mobile county."

Overlook Whites

But Negroes and many whites are asking, "Why were Negroes the only persons questioned and arrested." Leading Negro citizens want it understood that they are in accord with a desire to see that all available manpower is utilized in winning the war, but feel that there must be some other motive in the wholesale arrest of colored people in the so-called work-or-fight campaign. It is believed to be an effort to drive many Negro women back to domestic service and force men into accepting jobs which may be offered at sub-standard wages.

The campaign was proclaimed several months ago by Alabama's governor, Chauncey Sparks. Since that time about 300 people have so far been arrested in Mobile alone. A vast majority Negroes, including more than 40 colored women. Not one white woman is known to have been jailed in connection with the drive, although not many months ago this city had a large number of them who made prostitution a business.

In view of the alarming increase in the arrest of Negroes in the campaign, the N.A.A.C.P., and other civic and religious movements are said to be seeking legal advice from out-of-town sources in an effort to find grounds of legal procedure to curb the indiscriminate jailing of colored people.

OCT 4 1943

Whenever Negro applicants called at the United States Employment

Race Bars Lifted On Alaska Highway Jobs

ST. PAUL, Minn. — (ANP) — S highway were faced with unbeliev- ing of [illegible] able difficulties in securing employ- ees for the Alaska project. The daily effected. Vincent [illegible] Paul Urban League, executive secretary of the [illegible] nounced Wednesday that discrimina- tory barriers against Negro appli- cants for the Alaska highway have been removed. For the past year, Negro workers service, they were discouraged. to work on the Alaska through Urban League efforts, [illegible] ment on this project. The [illegible] papers carried ad- advertisements stat- ing that workers were needed.

Guardian
Boston, Mass



APR 17 1943

Birmingham, Ala., News
October 14, 1943

Employe Of Winery Dies Of Fumes Inhaled While Cleaning Vat

A Negro employe died from fumes inhaled while working in a wine vat at the San Pedro Wine Company, 20 South 20th Street, early Wednesday afternoon, and a white employe and another white man who came to the rescue from a nearby concern were overcome and taken to hospitals.

Rubin Hunter, the Negro employe, of 924 North 31st Street, who had entered the vat to clean it, was pronounced dead after firemen had used a resuscitator. A. J. Salay, 4021 North 39th Street, the white employe was found unconscious in the vat and taken to Hillman Hospital and later to Jefferson Hospital where his condition was reported good Thursday.

W. R. Jenkins, of 1800 Arlington Avenue, Bessemer, an employe of the Southern States Equipment Corporation which is near the wine company, had started to enter the vat when the Negro and white man were found unconscious. Becoming ill, he withdrew and went to the street where he collapsed. He was taken to St. Vincent's Hospital but was expected to be dismissed Thursday afternoon.

An autopsy was performed on the body of Hunter Wednesday afternoon at the order of Coroner Gip Evans so that a chemical analysis could be made to determine the exact cause of his death. Coroner Evans explained that it cannot be determined just what kind of fumes killed the Negro until this analysis is made.

Miss Gertrude Salay, secretary to the manager of the wine company, and daughter of Mr. Salay, discovered the accident and her screams brought persons from adjoining concerns. Firemen smashed in the top of the vat to rescue the men.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Negro Workers In Montgomery To Be Honored

Service Pins To Be Given 10-Year People With Firm

CHICAGO — (ANP) — Negro workers in the "Plantation" unit of the Reliance Manufacturing Co. at Montgomery, Ala., will be honored in a ceremony to be staged by the garment manufacturing company on Saturday, Nov. 27, it has been announced by A. T. Bard, executive vice-president of the company.

The occasion for the ceremony will be the awarding of Reliance service pins to 120 employees who have been with the company from five to 10 years. This figure represents nearly half of the entire staff of the plant.

NOV 27 1943

TO MAKE PRESENTATIONS

The service pins will be awarded by Mr. Bard, who will travel from the company's home offices in Chicago to Montgomery so that he can make the presentations individually to each of the 120 employees. C. R. Giesing, manager of the Montgomery plant, also will be on the program.

NOV 27 1943

Dr. Frederick Douglas Patterson, president of Tuskegee, has been invited to address the employes as part of the ceremony. It is believed that he, or a representative of the institute, will be present.

A unique entertainment feature will be provided by the garment firm for their employes. The popular Southernaires, celebrated Negro artists, have been engaged to provide an afternoon of entertainment following the presentation of the pins.

NOV 27 1943

OFFICIALS INVITED

City officials of Montgomery, and other celebrities, both Negro and white, have been invited to attend this salute to Negro workers.

The program will be in charge of S. M. Guthunz from Reliance headquarters in Chicago.

Reliance opened its shirt factory in Montgomery nearly 15 years ago, and since that time its roster of employes always have been nearly 100 per cent Negro. The company has been widely acclaimed for its fair treatment of all employes.

Service Pin award ceremonies have been staged, or will be in the near future, at all of the company's 21 paints that have been in operation for more than five years. But never previous to the program that has been arranged for the Negro employes in Montgomery has high calibre professional talent been engaged to perform at one of the ceremonies.

JUL 27 1943

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Negro Workers In Ala. Garment Factory Hailed

Defender —Chicago, Ill

MONTGOMERY, ALA. — Negro workers of the Reliance Manufacturing company here will be honored in a ceremony to be staged by the garment manufacturing company Saturday, Nov. 27, it has been announced by A. T. Bard, executive vice president of the company.

The occasion for the ceremony will be the awarding of Reliance Service Pins to 120 employees who have been with the company from five to ten years. This figure represents nearly half of the entire staff of the plant.

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JUN 12 1943

To Upgrade Negroes In Mobile

Weekly Review
Birmingham, Ala.

MOBILE—A program for upgrading of Negroes in all skills necessary for bare hull construction on four ways of the Alabama Dry Docks and Shipbuilding Co., at Mobile has been approved by the heads of the interested agencies, the chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices has announced.

The committee chairman's statement read as follows:

"The proposed solution for the settlemen of difficulties at the shipyard, Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company, drawn up by the conference committee on May 28 and subscribed to by David R. Dunlap, J. M. Geiser and W. T. Daly for the company; by Charles Hanson, J. L. Bouche and Elijah Jackson for the International Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America (CIO); by E. J. Trimble and Clarence Mitchell for the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice; and by Burton P. Morley for the War Department to confirmed by the heads of the interested agencies, Negroes will be upgraded in all skills necessary for bare hull construction on ways of the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company. Under the arrangement the War Manpower Commission has maintained the supply of labor and the production of ships will be set aside

"All steps necessary will be tak- 1 through 4 of the Alabama Dry

35g-1943
Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

California

Street Car Company Hires Race Workers

FEB 6 - 1943

By HERMAN HILL
Staff Correspondent

LOS ANGELES, Calif., Feb. 4—Following a series of conferences among War Manpower Commission officials and labor leaders, Victory Committee Chairman Rev. Clayton D. Russell and P. B. Harris, Los Angeles Railway president; the Transit System has officially agreed to hire Negro trainmen and to upgrade qualified race workers in its shops.

Since the final meeting, last Friday at the Manpower offices, 14 persons, heretofore employed as menials have been upgraded. Several prospective trainmen have filed their applications and are expected to begin the two weeks training course prior to actually manning a street car. Because of the terrific local shortage of manpower, some difficulty has been experienced in finding applicants. Job seekers are being registered at the U.S. Employment Service.

The Amalgamated Association of Electric Street Railway and Motor Coach Employees of America, AFL, headed by C. Edward Lentz, was said to have solidly stood behind the demands of Manpower spokesmen and Negro leaders that race bias terminate. Mr. Lentz pointed out to Courier representatives that the local trainmen's union had been in close touch with the local in Detroit, where several hundred Negroes have been accepted as members.

FEB 6 - 1943

Guy T. Nunn of the Manpower Commission's minority division was also instrumental in solving the problem.

3,000 Ngroes Now Hold Jobs At Lockheed-Vega

Pittsburgh Courier

JUL 24 1943

LOS ANGELES — The employment of more than 3,000 Negro aircraft workers as "full-fledged producers of Lockheed and Vega warplanes" has been cited by R. Randall Irwin, industrial relations director of the Lockheed and Vega Airplane companies, as an example of "Democracy At Work."

In an Independence Day message published in the Lockheed-Vega Star, official company publication and distributed to all the company's employees from its Burbank, Calif., headquarters, Mr. Irwin discussed the steps taken by his company to encourage full participation in the national defense program by all citizens of the United States regardless of race, creed, color or national origin."

ty.

Although comparable figures were not available for the shipbuilding industry, WMC reports indicated a substantial increase in Negro employment. The California Shipbuilding Corporation increased its Negro employees from approximately 400 in May to 1,132 in January. Several other shipyards reported hundreds of Negro workers.

Advance In Aircraft

The most substantial increases in Negro employment in the Los Angeles area were made in the aircraft industry. During the nine-month period, Negro employment at Douglass Aircraft industry. During the nine-month period, Negro employment at Douglass Aircraft increased from 200 to 2,000; at North American from 364 to 1,696, and at Lockheed-Vega, from 534 to 1,189. Negroes are employed in skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled capacities in all of these plants, and the number of skilled workers is being increased through upgrading and in-plant training.

The employment of Negro workers in smaller war plants in Los Angeles County rose from 1.9 to 3.1 per cent during the period, the WMC reports revealed. Reports from 111 firms indicated that, although 31 firms employed no Negro workers, the 80 remaining firms employed 2,000 colored workers. In May, 1942, only 952 non-white employers were reported by the 111 firms.

5,200 HIRED IN WAR JOBS IN ONE COUNTY

St. Louis, Missouri

March 26, 1943

Increase Noted; Also Breakdown Of Racial Restrictions

Negro war plant employment, excluding shipbuilding, where thousands of colored workers have been hired in recent months, increased more than 100 per cent in the Los Angeles (Cal.) area between May, 1942, and January, 1943, the War Manpower Commission announced today.

With more than 5,200 Negroes receiving war jobs during the percentage of Negro war workers in Los Angeles County rose from 1.1 to 2.6 of the total. According to the 1940 Census, Negroes comprised 2.7 per cent of the total population of Los Angeles Coun-

Oakland Shipyards Employ Thousands Of Negro Workers; Living Conditions Horrible

Pittsburgh Courier

1-30-43

By LEON WASHINGTON, JR.

OAKLAND, Cal.—(ANP)—Oakland, located on the San Francisco bay, is one of the largest shipbuilding centers in America. At the present Oakland is the hub for the gigantic Richmond, Moore, Western Pipe and Steel, Pacific Bridge, Mare Island, General Engineering, Bethlehem, Marinship. These shipyards recruit their employes from all over America. Oakland papers are filled with ads asking and pleading with workers to come and work in these yards in order that we might preserve uor American way of life.

Ads Bring Workers

Typical of these headlines are "Men wanted. Help General MacArthur by helping us. 6 day-week. Start at $1.00 "500 men wanted. $.95 per hour while learning." "Airline cargo handlers. $135 per month starting salary." "You are n e e d e d. Typists, stenographers. Good salary with overtime." "Wanted at once. Women, positions now opened as street-car operators." "Laborers wanted. Essential defense work." "Wanted, welders and helpers. Top wages."

Over 42 advertisements of these types appear in the Oakland papers. Many of them, until a few months ago, refused to consider Negro workers. However, with the shortage of men-power, they have been forced to abandon their jim-crow tactics and Negroes are now employed in practically all of the shipyards throughout the bay area.

Houston Informer

1-30-43

One of the most influential organizations to break down the racial barrier is the Bay Area Council against Discrimination, composed of a number of prominent Oakland citizens. These citizens have met with the personnel heads of the various shipyards, federal agencies, state and city groups. Another organization which has a membership of 4,000 members is the Boilermakers auxiliary, Local A 26, which is headed by R. Guilmenot, president. When the auxiliary started it was unpopular with many of the Negro leaders, who opposed it because they felt it was a jim-crow set-up of the boilermakers who in many localities do not accept Negro members.

Houston, Texas

Wages Good

Spencer Jourdan, secretary treas-

urer, in counter-acting the unfavorable attitude of other Negro leaders, points out that until the auxiliary was started few if any Negroes were employed in the shipyards. At the present time, there are 4,000 active members in this union who are receiving wages from $45 to 70 per week. Many have been integrated into the various skills as burners, fitters, and mechanics.

1-30-43

"We were forced into the auxiliary and we feel that we have made the best of these circumstances," he said. "We recently paid cash for our union hall, which is located on one of the busiest streets of Oakland. We employ a number of persons, and our stenographers are paid from $45 to $50 per week. Our board of directors is composed of many prominent citizens. We have Negro churches, lodges, social clubs and other organizations. Incident-

took time out from his ke your reporter to the of the Richmond ship- arrived about 8:30 p.m. of these dormitories are hin a block of the gi- yards. Two were desig- Negro workers. There in both of the buildings $5 per week for singles or doubles. According to s who eat in the cafe- the project, it costs ap- many persons who lived in trail- $2.50 per day, ancers, tents and other unsanitary there is no hot waterplaces. "We, as members of the or bathing or shaving. Boilermakers Auxiliary union, will leave no stone unturned to break

Dormitories

ng the dormitory wedown these conditions," several ember of men loungingtold me.

ies. One man, John Hachambers, Ark., had been r one month, and hadare Americans. There is every ef- ng in a leather backfort being made to help supply our g this employment atfighting men upon the various bat- ds. He worked from 12tle fronts throughout the world. 7 a.m. and during the his time attempting to

True Americans

"The men who are working here

...Another pathetic sight was Earl Vinson who said he was 17 years old, but whose appearance would leave doubt as to the truth of his

Another pathetic sight was Earl Vinson who said he was 17 years old, but whose appearance would leave doubt as to the truth of his

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH
REEL 82

GOOD NEWS

Guardian

The following statement on "Democracy at Work" was written by R. Randall Irwin, industrial relations director of the Lockheed and Vega Airplane companies, California. It was published in the Lockheed-Vega Star, the company publication, and distributed to all the company's employes as an Independence Day Message.

JUL 24 1943

Mr. Irwin's article:

Boston, Mass.

"DEMOCRACY AT WORK

"One hundred and sixty-seven years ago—on July 4, 1776—the Continental Congress signed the Declaration of Independence, in which it was declared, 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.'

JUL 24 1943

"Eighty years ago—on November 19, 1863, ten and one-half months after his Emancipation Proclamation—President Lincoln delivered his famous Gettysburg Address which opened with, 'Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.'

"Since the Emancipation Proclamation, this country experienced eighty years of wars and peace before another president issued a document aimed to give all races an equal opportunity to live under liberty and to pursue happiness.

"On June 25, 1941, President Roosevelt issued an Executive Order stating that, 'It is the policy of the United States to encourage full participation in the national defense program by all citizens of the Unted States, regardless of race, creed, color, or national origin, in the firm belief that the democratic way of life within the Nation can be defended successfully only with the help and support of all groups within its borders.'

"In accordance with the Executive Order, the Lockheed and Vega Companies declared that they would comply fully with the directive and make a special effort to train and employ colored workers 'in capacities commensurate with their individual skills and aptitudes.'

"Today three thousand Lockheed and Vega employees are colored. Problems have arisen, but they have been minor and have been promptly overcome. The few difficulties that have arisen have been caused by lack of understanding by individual employees—white and colored alike.

"It can now be sai dthat the Colored employees have rapidly taken their places as fullfledged producers of Lockheed and Vega war planes, which are going forth to fight for the freedom of all nations and races everywhere."

The exemplary action of the Lockheed and Vega companies is a piece of "good news" which we are glad to republish. Such examples of open-mindedness, of willingness and courage to give democracy a fair trial, help to define the belief that America is "good at heart." Take away that hope and America is lost.

JUL 24 1943

EX-DIAMOND STAR MANAGES PARACHUTE CO.

Chicago, Ill.
Defender

Herman Warren, Former Chicago Giants Player, In California

By J. ROBERT SMITH

SAN DIEGO, Cal.—Herman Warren, son of the Rev. W. R. Warren, former pastor of the Church of God in Evanston, Ill., now pastor of the same named church in Topeka, Kans., was promoted to the position of general manager of the Pacific Parachute company here last week.

JUN 26 1943

Warren will be remembered in Evanston as a former baseball player with the Evanston Giants and also business manager of the Evanston Wolverine football team.

Beside being a member of Joe Green's Chicago Giants, he was also the 100-yard dash champion in 1934, having defeated Pug Rentner, famous Northwestern University Sprinter at the Chicago World's Fair the same year.

The business manager, who is a product of Evanston Township high school left Chicago in 1941 for California where he studied silk cutting and laying at the Standard Parachute company of this city.

Warren assists his brother, Howard "Skippy" Smith, who is president of the firm that made "Rochester" Anderson played angel to, and which employs seven different nationalities.

The Chicagoan was elevated from the position of plant superintendent due to the attainment of maximum production in the plant's parachute output which now entitles it to the coveted Army and Navy E Award.

Huge West Coast Aviation Plant Backs "Hold Your Job" Campaign

Atlanta, Georgia
Daily World

3,500 Negro Employes Are Listed On Company Rolls

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—Sponsors of the "Hold Your Job week" campaign received strong support from industry when an official of the Lockheed-Vega Aircraft corporation of Burbank, Cal., pointed out the urgency of war workers, particularly women, remaining at the machines until the war has been won.

He is Randall Irwin, industrial relations representative of the west coast aircraft manufactury whose record of employment of Negroes has won much praise. Mr. Irwin emphasized his views at recent conference of the War Manpower commission to which he had been invited.

"It can't be emphasized too strongly that women who take about 3500 Negroes, and, in the these jobs stay at their words of Mr. Irwin, "we have jobs," he declared. "They must be told that had satisfactory results." He explained that these employes are the war is not yet won and that used on an integrated basis, use they may not go home to take care of other duties exclusively. the same facilities as are available to other employes, and "race of the armed forces which is no factor has been completely labor market. Much of this good has been attained through the work of employe counselors, he said, women who make themselves valuable stay on the job."

In the early days of the industrial Office for Production Management, the staff of Dr. Robert C. Weaver of the Negro employers to accept Negro employes at one of the first in the aircraft industry to come through, and this was done through the cooperation of Mr. Irwin, according to Weaver.

The company today employs of whom are Negroes. But there is no selecting of workers among these counselors, he pointed out. The counselors assist whatever employe that needs aid, Negro or white.

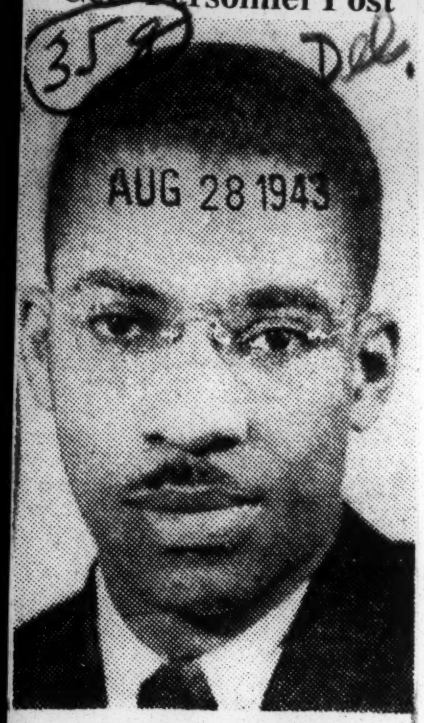
DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

35g-1943
Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

DELEWARE

Gets Personnel Post

35 F Dela.



AUG 28 1943

WATSON BROWN,
former Wilmington school teacher, who was recently appointed assistant director of personnel at the Delaware Rayon Company, New Castle, Del.

they would be kept out of the Army.

Agricultural labor is virtually frozen, stopping the normal flow of labor supply by this practice and by the misapplication of Public law 45, passed by Congress, April 29, 1943, restricting the transfer of agricultural workers from one county to another.

War Food Administration has predicted loss of millions of dollars and feed crops unless the situation is cleared up.

Age
New York, N. Y.

Probe Of Southern Peonage Conditions Demanded By WDL

AUG 28 1943

35g

Ga.

ATLANTA, Ga.—U. S. Department of Justice has been asked to investigate peonage conditions in Arkansas, it was revealed by Frank McCallister, secretary, Southern Workers Defense League.

McCallister said that an investigation completed by him this week disclosed that many planters were promising draft-deferment to their sharecroppers if they would sign a "yellow-dog" contract agreeing to stay on the planters' farm for at least 5 years. In some instances, when Southern Tenant Farmers' Union members refused to sign, they were kicked off the plantation and their crop taken away.

McCallister said that his investigation established that it appeared many planters were getting draft-deferment blanks in quantities from Selective Service Boards and telling sharecroppers and farm laborers that if they would agree to remain where they were for 5 years

AUG 28 1943

35g-1943

Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

USDA ADDS 109 NEGRO WORKERS TO STAFF

JAN 28 1943

Washington, D. C.—USDA Personnel Director T. Roy Reid revealed in his 1942 annual report to Secretary Wickard that the number of Negro employees in the Washington office was increased by 109 between July, 1941 and July, 1942. However, it is estimated that the number is now in excess of 200. The report also showed that several Negro workers had been promoted.

JAN 28 1943

Daily World

Atlanta, Georgia

Capital Transit Agrees To Employ Negro Operators

WASHINGTON (ANP)— The Committee on Jobs for Negroes in Public Utilities announced on Friday that the Capital Transit company, in a letter to the FEPC, has agreed to the employment of Negros as bus and trolly car operators.

The agreement by Capital Transit to accept Negroes as platform men marks a long step forward in the solution of Washington's grave negotiations now under way among the transit company's executives to expedite this employment policy.

The committee in a meeting with Fr. F. G. Haas, chairman of FEPC and Miss Ross executive secretary, received the assurance of the government agency officials that every step possible is being taken to affect the new employment policy agreed to by the transit company. It is expected that this will be done within a reasonable time.

SEP 5 1943

SEP 6 1943

D. C.

Negro on Washington Manpower Commission

The Call

MAR 12 1943

Kansas City Mo

MAR 12 1943

New York Age

New York, N. Y.

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Taking steps to extend authority of the War Manpower commission locally over the District of Columbia area, Ramy S. Doschner Saturday named a nine-man management-labor advisory committee and announced that a "stabilization program" would be established here soon.

MAR 12 1943

Seven of the designees were white and one colored. He is James E. Harris, 37, business agent for United Cafeteria and Restaurant Workers' union, with about 3,000 members mostly employed in government cafeterias in the city and nearby areas.

Harris was born in North Carolina, graduate of A. and T. college as a bachelor of science; came to Washington in 1923, attended the Howard university law school two years. Was busboy at government cafeteria in procurement division, treasury department. He is married and has one daughter.

MAR 12 1943

First official meeting of the committee will be within a few days, Doschner announced. It will be a "policy" committee with an overall objective of providing for the mobilization and utilization of all the manpower resources in this area.

Kansas City Mo

It will provide for the orderly recruitment and placement of such labor as is not available from local supply with a view of preventing disruption of community facilities and services, particularly, housing, public schools and utilities.

MAR 12 1943

The new program hopes to prevent excassive turnover in essential industries, reduce unwarranted absenteeism and bring about, among other things, "Full utilization of women and members of minority groups."

MAR 12 1943

The new committee also will be responsible for hearing complaints of individual workers or employers, or group of workers or employers, concerning any action or failure to act by local representatives of governmental agencies which are carrying out any part of the program of the War Manpower commission.

Whites', Negroes' Pay For Same Work Must Be Equal, WLB Rules

Racial Discrimination Follows Nazi Program, Board's Order Asserts

WASHINGTON—In a "small but insignificant" case, the War Labor Board Sunday ruled unanimously that Negro and white workers doing the same job should be paid the same wages and that employers practicing discrimination because of race were following the Nazi program.

An uncontested decision handed down by the Labor Board specifically ordered the Southport Petroleum Company of Texas City, Tex., to grant wage increases to its Negro workers, thereby "placing them on a basis of economic parity with the white workers in the same classification."

Management of the company accepted the board's decision "in good faith and spirit," WLB announced. Expected to be far-reaching in its effects, the Southport Company case ruling upholds President Roosevelt's fair employment practices code.

The Negro is necessary for winning the war, and our treatment of him in this country is a test of our sincerity in the cause for which we are fighting, declared Dr. Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina and only Southern member of the WLB, in writing the board's official opinion.

* * * *

"IN THIS SMALL but significant case," he wrote, "the WLB abolishes the classifications 'colored worker' and 'white worker' and reclassifies both simply as "laborers,' with the same rates of pay for all in that classification without discrimination on account of color."

The opinion said the increase was granted "without regard" to the Little Steel formula, but "with regard snmply for the Democratic formula of equal pay for work equal in quantity and quality in the same classification."

There is no more loyal group than the American Negro, Graham declared, citing the example of a Negro mess boy, Dorie Miller, of Texas, who, when the machine gunner on the Arizona was killed in the Pearl Harbor attack, jumped to his place and fired the last rounds as his ship was sinking.

"Economic and political discrimination on account of race or creed is in line with the Nazi program," said Dr. Graham. "America in its infant weakness, the heaven of heretics and the oppressed of all races, must not in the days of its power become the stronghold of bigots.

* * *

"THE AMERICAN ANSWER to differences in color and creed is not a concentration camp, but cooperation.

"It is the acknowledged fact that in spite of all the handicaps of slavery and discrimination, the Negro in America has compressed more progress in the shortest time than any race in human history.

"Slavery gave the Negro his Christianity. Christianity gave the Negro his freedom. This freedom must give the Negro equal rights to home and health, education and citizenship, and an equal opportunity to work and fight for our common country."

More colored peoples are involved in this war than the combined populations of the Axis powers, said the university president, but under Hitler and his master race, "their movement is backward to slavery and despair."

Washington Post

Washington, D. C

Equal Pay

JUN 9 1943

The War Labor Board has taken an important step toward assuring equality of economic opportunity in the United States. On Sunday it instructed the Southport Petroleum Co. to give pay increases to Negro employes which will "place them on a basis of economic parity with the white workers in the same classification." The significance of this ruling transcends any question of wage stabilization. It is a clear-cut, healthy recognition of a basic American principle.

"This equalization of economic opportunity," the board's opinion pointed out, "is not a violation of the sound American provision of differentials in pay for differences in skills. It is rather a bit of realization of the no less sound American principle of equal pay for equal work as one of the equal rights in the promise of American democracy regardless of color, race, sex, religion or national origin." It should be given application and enforcement at all levels throughout the country.

This decision contains real benefits for white workers as well as for Negroes. It means that employers can no longer depress wage rates by threatening to replace whites with colored workers at lower pay for the same jobs. For this reason it should go far toward reducing labor union discrimination against Negroes. And it is this discrimination on the part of organized labor itself which provides the basis for most discriminatory practices by management.

The WLB decision is an indispensable corollary to the directive under which the President recently established his new Fair Employment Practice Committee. If men are to be hired without discrimination, then it follows that they must be paid without discrimination. That the Government at last appears to be taking effective measures toward real fair employment practices should be immensely heartening to the millions of our Negro citizens, whose patriotism has prevailed even over the undeniable injustices they endure. They deserve the tribute paid to them in the eloquent opinion written by Dr. Frank Graham: "It is the acknowledged fact that in spite of all the handicaps of slavery and discrimination, the Negro in America has compressed more progress in the shortest time than any race in human history. Slavery gave the Negro his Christianity. Christianity gave the Negro his freedom. This freedom must give the Negro equal rights to home and health, education and citizenship and an equal opportunity to work and fight for our common country."

JUN 9 1943

Negro Who Worked 64 Years In State Department Buried

Courier-Journal

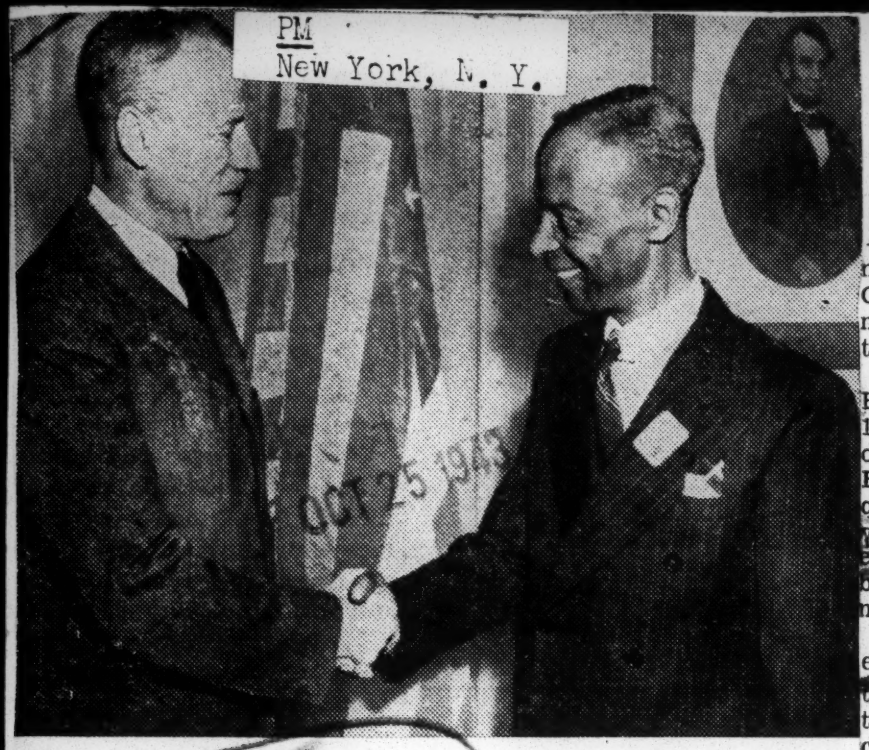
Louisville, Ky.

Washington, Aug. 24 (AP)—Edward Savoy, 88-year-old, Negro who worked under twenty-two secretaries of State Department from 1869 to 1933, was buried today.

Eddie, as he was known to department officials who called him a master of tact and possessor of a remarkable memory, had a part in historic happenings as a messenger.

It was he who handed passports to the Spanish ambassador when the United States and Spain went to war in 1898. He also handed such documents to Sir Sackville West, the British ambassador who displeased President Cleveland by mixing into domestic politics, and to the Austrian ambassador when the United States entered the World War.

On March 12, 1933, Savoy retired; President Roosevelt called him to the White House and thanked him for sixty-four years of faithful service.



Completing 44 years of Government service, William P. Robinson, chief messenger in the War Dept., gets congratulations from Under Secretary Robert P. Patterson. Robinson went to work for the War Dept. in 1899.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

No Bias Shown By United Fruit Co. Committee Says

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The following announcement was made last week by Msgr. Francis J. Haas, chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices:

"The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice on July 13, 1943, received from its New York office a report that the United Fruit Company had failed to hire qualified Negro Maritime officers who had presented themselves for employment. These allegations have been investigated and have been dismissed for lack of merit.

"The report concerning the United Fruit Company as presented to the New York office, asserted that the company had requested a full crew and that, when qualified Negro officers applied the company had refused to accept them. This was found to be without any foundation in fact. No request for a crew was made by the company. Investigation revealed that a suggestion was made that Negro officers, not specified as to persons or qualifications, be hired by the United Fruit Company. Upon report of the full facts to responsible officers of the company, a readiness by the company to employ qualified Negro officers was expressed.

"In the course of its investigation of this case, the Committee found that about 25 Negro officers are presently serving in the Merchant Marine and that the total number of qualified Negro officers, including the 25 afloat, is less than 50. Due to the shortening of training time for officers from 36 to 18 months, more qualifying Negro officers are becoming available. The Committee found that the United Fruit Company has employed unlicensed personnel without regard to color. With respect to the licensed personnel, the Committee has received assurances from the United Fruit Company that any qualified officer meeting the requirements of the War Shipping Administration will be employed without regard to race, color, creed or national origin."

Fruit Company Absolved Of Job Discrimination

Daily World

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (SNS) —The following announcement was made by Msgr. Francis J. Haas, Chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, Saturday.

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Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Pentagon Bldg. Mail Handlers Kept Busy

97 Employees Route 311,111 Pieces Daily Through 16-Mile Interior

Atlanta, Georgia

The War Department is in urgent need of messengers to work in its huge Pentagon Building at starting salaries of $1200 per year. Information may be obtained by calling Mr. Temple, Republic 6700, Extension 6521.

By DOUGLASS HALL

WASHINGTON

Some 10,000,000 pieces of mail that enter the War Department's Pentagon Building monthly are handled by members of the Communications Branch, according to Maj. E. A. Simpson, chief of the branch. This means that 97 employees handle 311,111 pieces of mail each 24 hours, and that in the year ending June, 30, 1943, these workers had moved 112,000,000 pieces of mail through intricate channels to the desks of War Department workers.

They include letters of great importance—mail from the battle fronts telling of Allied plans, hopes; mail from parents of soldiers; letters marked "secret," "personal," "restricted," "do not delay."

16 Miles in 10 Steps

A letter covers the complicated sixteen miles of rock and stone from the door to its intended desk in the following ten steps:

The mail is dumped into the hands of workers in the Communications Branch;

It is emptied into a sorting tray and wheeled to the workers at the distribution boxes, then put into bags addressed to the ten message centers in the building, to be picked up by messengers of various agencies.

After the mail is received in a message center it is again sorted and opened, except mail addressed to individuals, which is delivered in its original cover.

It is then passed to classifying and routing clerks who open the letters and route them according to subject matter for delivery to the interested distribution center or mail room.

225 Distribution Centers

From there they go to the action desk, from which a messenger delivers them to the proper worker. There are 225 distribution centers.

Within the Pentagon Building, a seven-mile pneumatic mail tube system speeds the mail to a central transfer station, thence to the mail tube station nearest its destination. There are twenty-five of these stations, five on each floor.

Girl messengers deliver the mail directly from the mail tube station to the mail room, and from there it goes to the employee who acts upon the letter. Inter-branch and intra-office communications within the building almost invariably go by pneumatic tube, the average elapsed time between pick-up and delivery being 20 minutes.

Workers Praised

Major Simpson paid the following tribute to his civilian personnel:

"Although there has been a substantial increase in the volume of mail, officer personnel in this branch has been reduced from 42 to 18.

"A reduction in civilian personnel has also been possible, with service improved, because the workers are above the average in intelligence, dependability and efficiency."

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Bill to Increase Recorder's Salary

The House passed and sent to the White House for the President's signature a bill to raise the salary of the Recorder of Deeds from $4,000 to $5,000 per year, and that of the superintendent of the National Training School for Colored Girls from $2,700 to $3,600 per year.

The bill, which had already passed the Senate prior to the recess, was called up last Tuesday and passed without a dissenting vote, following an explanation of its purposes by Chairman Jennings Randolph, of the House District Committee.

Dr. William J. Thompkins is the Recorder of Deeds, and Mrs. Rachel Henry Galloway is superintendent of the Training School.

In explaining the purposes of the bill, Congressman Randolph told his colleagues in the House that it was designed to correct inequities and discrimination in the salaries of Negro officials of the District Government.

He pointed to the report of the Senate District Committee, which declared that both of the officials involved would be receiving higher salaries if they were not Negroes.

Mr. Randolph said no taint of discrimination should be permitted to exist in the matter of salaries paid to officials of the local government, and pointed to the $5,600 salary of the white superintendent of the School for white girls as an illustration of the type of discrimination that the bill would correct.

It could not be learned whether-or the Commissioners had opposed the bill which passed last Tuesday, but the only act necessary now to make the increases effective is the signature of the President.

Several efforts had been made to increase the salary of the Recorder of Deeds, but each previous occasion, the Commissioners had registered their objection to an increase.

Because of the absence of opposition in either House, it is expected that the President will sign the measure promptly.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

35g-1943

WOMEN HELP HANDLE 10,000,000 PIECES OF MAIL MONTHLY IN PENTAGON BUILDING, ARLINGTON, VA. GOVERNMENT NEEDS MORE SUCH WORKERS. PAY IS $1200.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland





Miss Marie Moser receives a letter from an office messenger, Roland Harris, and the mail has reached its destination.

Miss Clair Link classifies mail by subject.





At central transfer station, Misses Anna Haney, left, and Willie Harmon receive and reroute to sub-stations carriers that speed like rockets through the pneumatic tubes.

Misses Lydia Cox, left, and Mary Brown receive and dispatch via Central Station at Mail Tube Station in the Pentagon. The tube travel is 1,500 miles a day.

For Long, Faithful Service

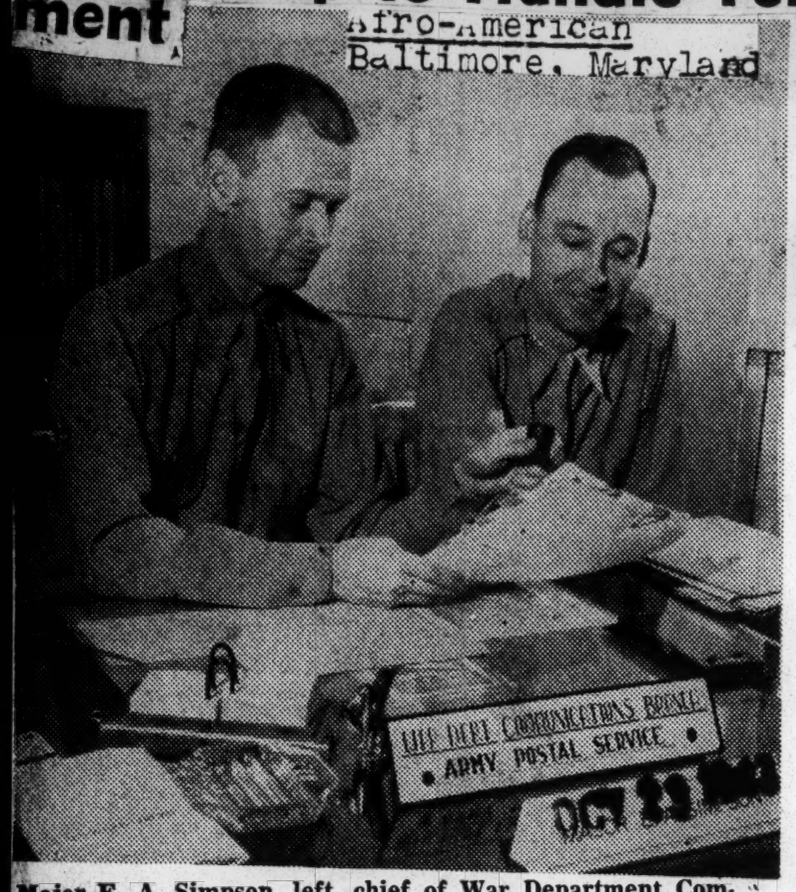
Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia



Brigadier General Harry R. Kutz, Chief of Military Training Division, Office of the Chief of Ordnance, congratulates Howard S. Scott on his retirement after 26 years' service as a messenger and clerk in the Ordnance Department at Washington. Mr. Scott was presented with a clock and scroll on behalf of the civilian and military personnel of the Ordnance Department. The scroll has been inscribed by all who knew him. Others pictured, left to right, are Miss Genevieve Stobel, Colonel Leo A. Codd, executive assistant to the Chief of Ordnance, and Miss Margaret Cavey. — (Photo by U. S. Army)

They Help to Handle Ten Million Pieces of Mail Each Month in the War Depart ment

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland



Major E. A. Simpson, left, chief of War Department Communications Branch, and Major W. B. Hudson, assistant.



Mail arrives at Pentagon and Raymond Sutton, left, and Myland Lacey unload, assisted and checked by William Gentry, Willis Banks, and Gradison Jones.

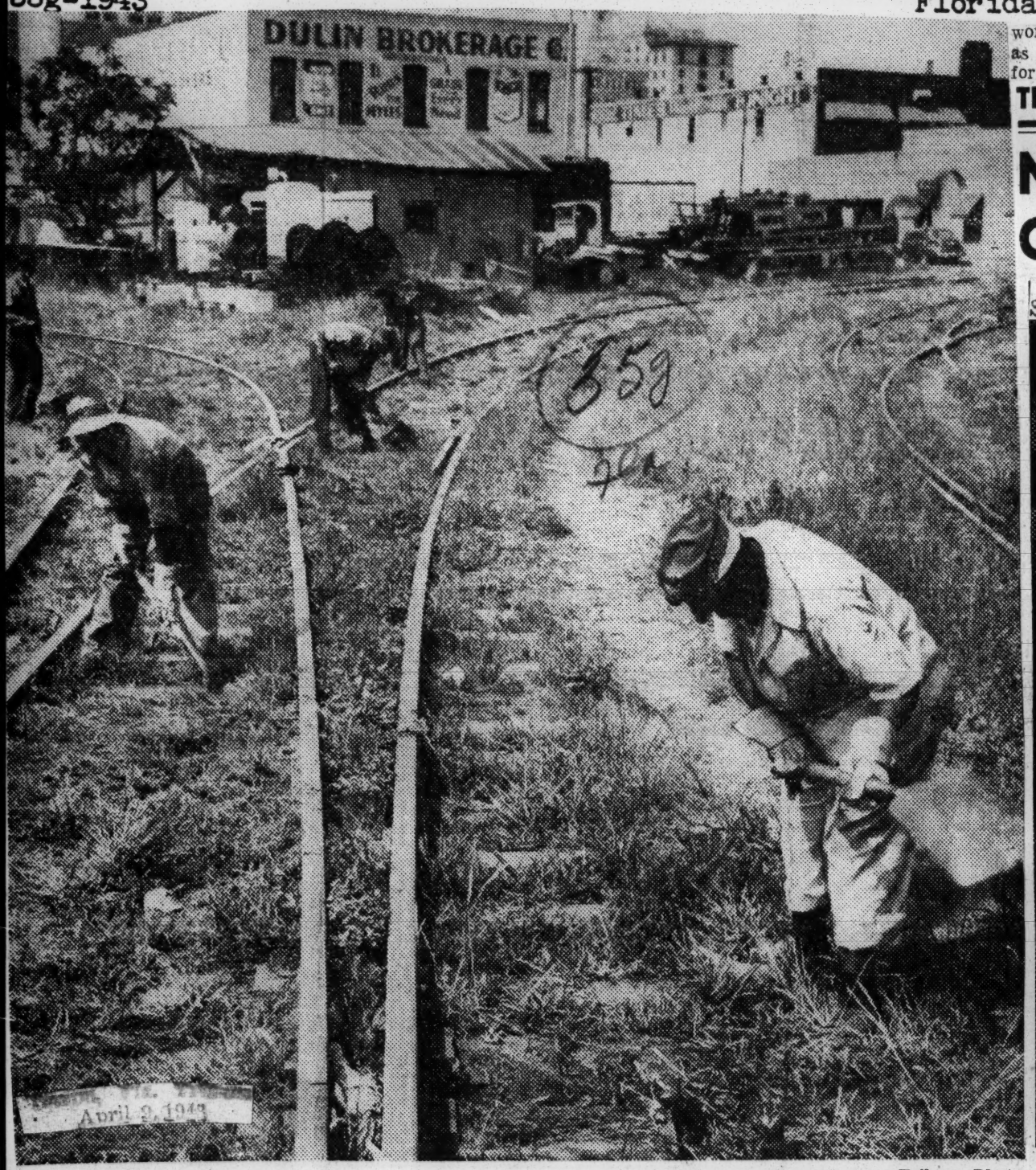


Jerome Hayes fills Message Center's storage bags. Ten million pieces of mail are handled monthly.



Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Into distribution boxes for sorting and bundling, the mail is ready for delivery to message centers. James Pharr, left, Willis Banks and Lark Powell do this job.



—Tribune Photo

WORKIN' ON THE RAILROAD—Negro women take the place of men in Seaboard section gang.

Negro Women Take Section Hand Jobs With Seaboard

Negro women, who have been taking the places of men in many tough spots as war raided Tampa labor crews, showed up as section hands yesterday, and the boss man said they were doing a good job.

A crew of five was at work on a stretch of Seaboard Air Line railway track on Whiting and Water, cutting weeds with shovels. Of course it was hard work, but as one of the women said it was no harder than washing a lot of dirty clothes and keeping track of a family of youngsters at the same time.

Railroad men said Negro women were being given jobs on the whole system, and the crew in Tampa was part of about 100 being put on in Florida.

Weed cutting gives them a chance to break in and get the feel of a shovel. They will be switched later to regular maintenance work, where they will have a chance to swing spike mauls and be real section hands.

"We have a regular crew of women up toward Lutz," said a supervisor, 'and you can't tell until you get close that they are not men. They know how to use their tools."

Doing men's work, they receive 46 cents an hour the regular pay, and work the regular eight-hour day, and as the supervisor said, there is room for plenty more.

THERE'S LABOR SHORTAGE, SO . . .

Negro Women Now at Work On Railway Section Gang



Mary Johnson demonstrates with a brake shoe the difference between house cleaning and railroad yard cleaning.

Growing shortage of railroad labor because of defense work and draft board competition has become such a problem for the local lines that one of them, the Seaboard, has taken on four negro women to handle jobs ordinarily filled by negro men.

Two of the women are working side by side with men in a section gang running out of the yards at Ninth avenue and Twenty-ninth street south, and two are being used to fill in vacancies on the big car maintenance crews.

The women maintenance workers have been assigned by Mechanical Foreman V. D. Thomas to keep the yards clear of all sorts of debris from papers to discarded brake shoes. They receive the prevailing wage of 46 cents an hour with time and a half for overtime.

One of the women, Mary Johnson, trousered and wearing a broad straw hat, declared herself well pleased with the new work. In fact, she said, she preferred it to what she was doing before—cleaning houses instead of railroad yards. She declines, however, to use a wheelbarrow. When she has heavy chunks of metal to pile in an orderly manner, she just picks them up and totes them.

The section "hands" wield shovels and other tools—share most of the track maintenance jobs except those that require unusual strength.

Though the Atlantic Coast Line has not taken on negro women as laborers here, a number have been employed for some time in the yards at Tampa cleaning locomotives and passenger cars.

Clearwater Negroes Must Work, Not Loaf

St. Petersburg, Fla., Times
September 2, 1943

CLEARWATER — Negroes in Clearwater who would rather loaf than work will be given an opportunity by Sheriff Todd Tucker to either work for themselves or work for the county on the chain gang.

Yesterday morning after complaints had been received of several cases of absenteeism among negroes, Deputies Robert Padgett and G. Horton Belcher visited all negro quarters in Clearwater. They found not only the negroes who had failed to report for work but others, some of whom gave sickness as an excuse.

Deputy Padgett advised all negroes who are sick to remain home in bed and not visit the joy places in the daytime. The deputies will not bother negroes found in the beer parlors at night, since they are probably refreshing themselves from a hard day's work.

In Clearwater residents have found it next to impossible to get

35g-1943

Economic Landmark

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

JUN 5 1943

The decision of the National War Labor Board abolishing classifications "colored laborer" and "white laborer" and eliminating pay differentials between white and colored workers for equal work is a new landmark in our economic progress.

Not only that, but the action of this government agency brings America's idealistic professions closer to actual performances.

It was a severe indictment of American industry and of Federal regulatory bureaus and committees that there was ever any discrimination against colored people because they were colored, and it made all talk of democracy and freedom a mockery.

It is significant that the company immediately concerned in this decision is located in southern Texas and has accepted the board's directive "in good faith and spirit."

We hope that other war industries, South and North, will follow this example and promptly eliminate all wage differentials based on color. Such action will have profound influence for the better.

It is reassuring to those who love America and have faith in its expressed ideals of human brotherhood and fairness.

It is doubly significant that a Southern white man, Dr. Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina, handed down the N.W.L.B. opinion, and went out of his way to say some fine and comforting things about the Negro's contribution to this civilization.

The war is bringing about great changes, and it is up to all of us to see that the gains being made in the stress of conflict are retained.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Not Terror But Light And Liberty

TO QUOTE the historic ruling: Economic and political discrimination on account of race or creed is in line with the Nazi program. America, in the days of its infant weakness, the haven of heretics of all races, must not in the days of its power become the stronghold of bigots . . . .The American answer to human error is not terror, but light and liberty under the moral law. By this light and liberty, the Negro has made a contribution in work and faith, song and story, laughter and struggle which are an enduring part of the spiritual heritage of America.

There is no more loyal group of our fellow citizens than the American Negroes, North and South. In defense of America from attack without, they spring to arms in the spirit of Dorie Miller of Texas, the Negro mess attendant, who, when the machine gunner on the Arizona was killed, jumped to his unappointed place and fired the last rounds as the ship was sinking in Pearl Harbor.

It is the acknowledged fact that in spite of all the handicaps of slavery and discrimination, the Negro in America has compressed more progress in the shortest time than any race in human history.

. . . .The Negro is necessary for winning the war, and at the same time it is a test of our sincerity in the cause for which we are fighting . . . . With the victory of the democracies, the human destiny is toward freedom, hope, equality of opportunity and the gradual fulfillment for all peoples of the noblest aspirations of the brothers of men and the sons of God, without regard to color or creed, religion or race, in the world neighborhood of human brotherhood.

The War Labor Board, obviously, is taking a rather realistic as well as long-range point of view of a question which can no longer be dealt with on the basis of a policy of vaccillation or compromise if the nation's war effort is to be spared the ignominy of completely bogging down. The WLB ruling serves notice on unscrupulous employers who have been in the habit of catering to the wishes of certain

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

JUN 5 1943

U.S. Finds Work For Large No. Of Negroes

WASHINGTON — Job opportunities for 139,881 non-white persons were found in July by the United States Employment Service during July, 1943, it was announced by the War Manpower Commission.

Of this group 56,155 were Negroes. Of this group 39,795 non-whites went into manufacturing plants. Largely war industries. Service jobs took a total of 39,795 non-whites during July; construction work; wholesale and retail trade; and government service.

The report came from the Place-Analysis Service, War Manpower

General

labor unions that our government is deadly serious about maintaining its reputation for being, in truth, the "arsenal of democracy."

Earn 19 Per Cent Of Total

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

JUL 30 1943

Skilled Workers Get $500,000 on National Projects

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Negro construction workers on 656 war public works projects throughout the country have earned nearly $4,000,000 in wages since the beginning of the program, according to a report submitted this week to Maj. Gen. Philip B. Fleming, Administrator of the Federal Works Agency, by W. J. Trent Jr., Racial Relations Officer.

Wages paid to Negroes represented 19 per cent of the total payroll on these projects. Of this amount, more than $500,000 went to skilled mechanics.

More than one-third of the total payrolls on projects in the District of Columbia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi was earned by Negro labor. In South Carolina Negro workers earned 24 per cent of the skilled payroll; in Kentucky and North Carolina, 14 per cent, and in Mississippi 12 per cent.

JUL 30 1943

Must Hire Negroes

Under contractual provisions war public works contractors are required to employ Negroes in proportion to their availability in the communities in which the project is located.

Monthly reports on racial employment are submitted to the Federal Works Agency. If a contractor has approximated the stipulated percentages it is accepted as prima facie evidence that he has not discriminated against Negro workers.

Projects these men are helping to build in crowded war areas include such community facilities as hospitals, schools, recreation centers for men in the armed services, health centers, sewer lines, and water systems. They help to meet the needs created by the impact of workers and soldiers on communities.

Hundreds of such facilities are being provided for Negro war workers and Negro soldiers throughout the country. In one community—a recreation center is built for Negro soldiers—in another additional hospital beds, health centers and schools are provided for the health and educational needs of Negro workers and their families.

In strategic areas detention homes for the treatment of the venereally-infected men and women are provided by Lanham Act funds under the Federal Works Agency.

Typical FWA work of this nature has been done in the Tidewater area of Virginia and the military and industrial area around Savannah, Ga. In the Tidewater area, with its large concentration of shipyard workers, soldiers and sailors, the following community facilities have been provided for Negroes:

JUL 30 1943

An addition of 66 beds to the Norfolk Community Hospital, a Negro hospital; a hospital for Negroes in Newport News; additional beds for Negro patients in general hospitals in Portsmouth, Norfolk and Hampton; schools or school additions in Norfolk, Elizabeth City County, Portsmouth and Warwick County; recreation centers for servicemen in Norfolk, Newport News, Hampton and Portsmouth. In addition to these facilities the Federal Works Agency has made funds available to carry on recreational programs and also to care for the children of war working mothers in war nurseries and child care centers.

Savannah, Georgia, another industrial and military area, has received FWA aid for the following facilities:

JUL 30 1943

Health clinic and recreation center at Hinesville; an addition to Negro hospital and equipment for another Negro hospital; recreation center for Negro soldiers (recently enlarged); venereal disease detention home (near Savannah).

Such facilities are being duplicated throughout the country wherever community needs have developed as a result of the war effort.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

The WLB Adjusts Wage Differentials

THERE is a ray of genuine hope for the American Negro in his aspirations for economic equality and a fulfillment of the "freedom from want" principle enunciated in the historic Atlantic Charter, in the ruling last week by the National War Labor Board which outlawed wage classifications based solely upon race and ordered the abolition of pay differentials between white and Negro workers performing equal work.

The opinion, written brilliantly by Dr. Frank P. Graham, a member of the board, and president of the University of North Carolina, directed the Southport Petroleum Company of Texas City, Texas, to grant wage increases to its Negro employees which would "place them on a basis of economic parity with the white workers in the same classification."

Revolutionary and far-reaching in its implications in that it will tend to eliminate the traditional Southern wage differential pattern, the ruling constitutes a powerful implementation of President Roosevelt's historic and precedent-shattering Executive Order 8802 which led to the organization of the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

Significantly, the opinion points out that, "this equalization of economic opportunity is not a violation of the sound American provision of differentials in pay for differences in skill; it is rather a bit of realization of the no less sound principle of equal pay for equal work as one

"The Test Of Our Sincerity"

The decision handed down last week by members of the War Labor Board invalidating wage differentials between workers based solely upon race and color is destined to reach far into the recesses of American "color-prejudice" and race distinction.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

The case out of which the decision grew involved the Southport Petroleum Company of Texas City, Texas, which the board members ordered to grant pay increase to its Negro employees "to place them on a basis of economic parity with white workers in the same classification."

The unanimous opinion, written by Dr. Frank P. Graham, liberal Southerner and President of the University of North Carolina, paid high tribute to the patriotism and loyalty of the American Negro, and said that the Negro is the "test of our sincerity" in the cause for which we are fighting.

Dr. Graham, in handing down the opinion, terms the case "small, but significant," and proceeded to abolish the classifications "colored labor" and "white labor' and reclassifies both simply as "laborers" with the same rate of pay for all in that classification without discrimination on account of color.

The language of the decision is eloquent: "Economic and political discrimination on account of race or creed is in line with the Nazi program. . . The American answer to differences in color and creed is not a concentration camp but cooperation. The answer to human error is not terror but light and liberty under the moral law. By this light and liberty the Negro has made a contribution in work and faith, in song and story, laughter and struggle, which are an enduring part of the spiritual heritage of America."

The philosophy underlying this decision serves not merely to uproot and destroy wage differentials between workers in defense plants by reason of race and color, but with equal vigor, it attacks the whole system of inequalities based upon race distinctions. For, in the further words of this decision "the whole world has given America the vigor and variety of its differences."

Negro Americans, whether in industry or other fields of labor, will hail the decision as a courageous pronouncement, which should logically come from the government to which they give unhesitatingly, of their time, their money, their loyalty and devotion, and of their very lives. It is the government that should point the way and blaze new trails in justice and fairplay for all. It is only through this mean and manner that the forty eight states will understand and recognize their duty toward the submerged among them. For in a very literal sense, the Negro is the test of America's sincerity in the cause for which it fights.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Reveal Big Gain In Negro Employes At Army Bases

WASHINGTON. — A mid-year survey of civilian employment at the various installations of the Third Service command, which embraces Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia, has disclosed a considerity of the civilian employees at Edgewood won for it production award recognition during the past year.

55 Per Cent Non-Whites

At Camp Pickett, Va., the non-whites represent more than 53 per cent of the aggregate civilian employe roll, while at Camp Lee, Va., they exceed 40 per cent of the total workers. At Fort George C. Meade in Maryland, the figure is 33 per cent.

At Fort Story, Va.; Fort Eustis, Va.; the Base Quartermaster at the Army Air base, Richmond, Va.; Fort Monroe, Va.; the Army air base at Bailtimore and the A. P. Hill military reservation, Va., between 25 and 33 per cent of all the civilian employes are non-whites.

In the Third Service command there are more than 70 military installations where the number of civilian employees ranges from one to 100. At many of these establishments there are non-white employees.

The Public Relations office of the Third Service command stated that the necessity of safeguarding information makes it impossible at present to disclose the precise figures by the survey.

able increase in the number of Negro workers, according to an announcement from the headquarters office in Baltimore of Major General Milton A. Reckord, commanding General.

Non-white employees are now at work in more than forty of the installations in varying percentages and at one establishment employing hundreds, the non-whites comprise 62 per cent of the total number of employees. In several other instances where several thousand employees work there are percentages for one-whites ranging between 40 and 55 per cent of the total number of workers. The workers include both men and women.

Laud Civilian Employes

High praise has been expressed for the devotion to duty of all the civilian employees in these strictly military centers, not only by army and War department officials, but by their civilian supervisors as well. All of the civilian employees have participated in the war bond sales campaigns, and the quotas that have been set as marks to be reached are near attainment by the civilian groups working with these strictly military establishments.

The Chemical Warfare service at Edgewood Arsenal, not far from Baltimore, leads the list of places where non-whites constitute a majority of the workers, with 62 per cent. Here Negro women are employed in large numbers. The acti-

Wartime Clinics Designed To Help Women Keep Jobs

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5—Co-operating with the National "Hold Your Job" committee, which plans to observe the week of September 12 to 18 as "Hold Your Job" week all over America, Mrs. Venice T. Spraggs, national chairman of the department of employment of the National council of Negro women, announces the establishment of Wartime Employment clinics in areas employing large numbers of Negro women workers.

Negro women will be the first to be fired in the post-war period unless steps are taken now by women themselves to do something about maintaining the new gains they have made in employment. The extent of the firing, however, will depend largely on how well Negro women are able to adjust themselves to their present jobs.

WARTIME CLINICS

The Wartime clinics are designed to help Negro women workers, the majority of whom are entering industrial plants and government jobs for the first time, to produce more effectively and efficiently by being particular about their dress, behavior and attitude on the job and in public places; to make them conscious of improving themselves on the job by taking training whenever possible and wherever possible; to participate fully in labor unions; and to, in every way, Help Win the War!

The council urges all of its affiliates and women's organizations in general, to co-operate with the National "Hold Your Job" committee and to work with groups and committees in local communities in helping to observe "Hold Your Job" week, September 12-18. Organizations wishing to co-operate with the National council's program for women workers should write to the National Office, 1812 Ninth street, Northwest, Washington, D. C., for suggestions and literature.

PO Department Against Racial Discrimination

St. Louis Argus
St. Louis, Mo.

Issues Bulletin Calling Upon Postmasters

Everywhere To Be Fair To All Regardless Of Race or Creed

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 2. —'From time to time, complaints have come to the Department that Postmasters and other Supervisors are unfair in handling their employees' promotional and supervisory responsibilities. Various reasons are ascribed. Party affiliations, race, creed, and color are the principal ones; discrimination is repugnant to all other principles of good government and decencies. The Post Office service serves all the people, and all the people pay for and scpport the Postal Service. Every Postal worker should have full opportunity of aspiring to and reaching the position to which his talents, his energy and integrity entitle him. I want all Postmasters and superintendents to give careful consideration to this matter. It is the duty of each Postmaster and superintendents to see that his office is so conducted that it cannot justly be charged that any person whosoever under his jurisdiction has not received the promotion, the assignment or other benefits that are due him."

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

This Is Sound Advice

THE real status of the Negro worker in America, especially with reference to his relation to the war effort, is summed up neatly in a recent editorial in The Kansas City Call, one of the most influential and widely read of our weekly newspapers.

Because the editorial echoes our sentiments and at the same time sounds a solemn warning against over optimism engendered by apparent labor gains made under pressure of war-time necessity, we think it is worth while repeating.

Very ertinently The Call observes:

> A few weeks ago we said: 'For Negroes to hold a place in industry, they must be acceptable to employer and fellow employee.' We argued that when pressure which now makes our jobs for us was gone, we must have new ground for our acceptance. To that end we suggested that we give less time to talking about prejudice and more to improving our skills. The recent 'race' riots support our view that the time has come for Negroes to 'Change Tactics.'

That this is sound advice goes without saying. It is so sound, in fact, that the Journal and Guide earnestly hopes that it will never have the occasion to say, "I told you so."

35g-1943
The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

General

Negro Leaders Spot Rickenbacker As Foe, Cite Tie to Poll Taxer

MAR 8 1943

The Negro people understand that Capt. Edward V. Rickenbacker is their enemy as well as the enemy of labor. Leaders of the Negro community here told the Daily Worker that they regarded it as quite logical that it was Rep. John Rankin of Mississippi, the worst of all Negro baiters in Congress, who invited Rickenbacker to speak before a congressional committee.

The Rev. Thomas S. Harten summed up the suspicion of Negroes for Rickenbacker when he said that invariably those who hate labor also hate Negroes.

Mr. Harten, who is pastor of Holy Trinity Baptist Church, said that Rankin's invitation to Rickenbacker was sufficient to warn Negroes to keep an eye on the talkative flier. MAR 8 1943

OUR FIGHT

"For," he said, "I think we ought to be 100 per cent against those who attack labor. We belong on the side of labor. The men who fight labor are the men who fight us. That is a fact easily verified. When we support labor we are supporting our own fight."

Mrs. Dorothy R. Homer, librarian in charge of the 135th St. branch of the New York Public Library and the first Negro to hold such a position in this city, said:

"I think Captain Rickenbacker is capitalizing on his good fortune in keeping alive for the more than 30 days he was adrift in the Pacific, and he seems to be capitalizing on it by forcing upon the American people his narrow and circumscribed standards. In speaking as he has against labor and wage increases he is certainly striking the Negro below the belt."

Although Rickenbacker has not yet directly attacked the Negro people in his stumping the country against labor, the Rev. Dr. James H. Robinson said, the Negro people should be on the alert for just such an attack. Rev. Dr. Robinson believes that labor-baiters bear watching by the Negro people.

"Rankin fought aaginst the anti-poll tax bill," Dr. Robinson said. "He has insulted the Negro by opposing a common blood bank by the Red Cross containing blood by both white and black citizens for our wounded soldiers. He is opposed to the Fair Employment Practice Committee."

Now, when "Hero" Rickenbacker lines up with such an enemy of the Negro people, Dr. Robinson concludes, "it pays them to watch him."

RIGHT TO BE SUSPICIOUS

Dr. Lawrence L. Reddick, curator of the Schomburg Collection of Negro Literature, 135th St. Branch Library, was of similar opinion. He summed it up. MAR 8 1943

"It would be difficult for the Negro people not to be suspicious of the invitation by the infamous Negro baiter, John H. Rankin, to Captain Rickenbacker, a real hero, who, unfortunately, has fallen into the clutches of the enemies of labor." MAR 8 1943

Emphatic point was given all these comments by Dorothy K. Funn, administrative secretary of the Negro Labor Victory Committee:

"It is perfectly logical that Representative Rankin, white-supremacy exponent, should invite Rickenbacker to appear before Congress. The views of poll-taxer Rankin and the anti-labor drive of NAM Rickenbacker are like a hand in a glove. Such a close partnership, you may be sure, bodes no good for the Negro people."

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

Report Shows 15% Gain Among Girls, 13.2% 'Overall'

MAR 13 1943

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Mar. 11—A report to the Advisory committee on war production training program activities of the National Youth Administration from July 1942 to February 1943, completely covers a wide range of accomplishments and services in Region III, consisting of Pensylvania, New Jersey and Delaware.

The report covers volume of employment, placement, type of training given, specific activities in the training of girls, health program activities, safety program activities, the student work program, status of the NYA fund, and community co-operation with the NYA health program. MAR 13 1943

NEARLY 38,000 TRAINED

It is disclosed in the report that, in the past eight months in Region III, war industry training in NYA shops has been provided 37,590 individuals; 68.5 per cent of those trained receive later placement; and the increased employment, as a result of better preparedness, represents a 13.2 per cent gain since last August for the Negro element.

A summary reveals that, of the total of NYA youths hired following special training, certain of them have been engaged in the following industries: Sun Shipbuilding company, 1,179; Bethlehem Steel company, 245; Army Air depot, 239; Glen-Martin company, 233; Dravo corporation, 232; Pipers Aircraft, 191, and Aviation Manufacturing company, 120.

PENNSYLVANIA BUSIEST

There are 111 shops in 41 locations in Region III, the report reveals, and 95 of these are in Pennsylvania, 15 in New Jersey, and just one in Delaware. Measured in terms of employment totals, the three basic metal working activities are machine, welding and sheet metal—in that order of importance. These three activities account for 76 per cent of the entire enrollment reported last month... 35 per cent is assigned to machine, 25 per cent to welding and 16 per cent to sheet metal work. The other 11 per cent is engaged in drafting, aircraft wood-working, auto mechanics, and so forth.

At the end of August, 1942, there were about 2,400 girls on NYA projects or about 32 per cent of the total enrollment, whereas, at the end of February, this year, the number had hiked to 4,000, or about 47 per cent.

NEGROES SHOW BIG GAIN

There has been a racial gain, too. More than 500 Negroes are employed now over the figures last August. MAR 13 1943

NYA youth in Region III have produced, all told, 918,324 articles in the eight-month period under review.

NEGRO BUS, TROLLEY EMPLOYMENT SOARING

MAR 13 1943

WASHINGTON, March 11—Negro bus and street car operators, long familiar to straphangers in two of the Nation's largest cities, are now being employed in a number of other communities, latest reports of the United States Employment Service to the Transport Personnel Division of the Office of Defense Transportation, show.

The example of the New York City Board of Transportation, which has employed Negroes for a number of years, has been followed recently by a privately-owned New York company which, in order to ease an acute manpower shortage, has employed a number of Negro bus drivers.

OVERALL UTILIZATION

In Buffalo, the USES survey showed, Negroes are being employed not only as operators but as mechanics and truck drivers. Transportation lines in Tacoma, Washington, are also utilizing Negroes as bus drivers, and in Tulsa, Okla., a transit company reported that 22 Negro bus drivers are among 245 persons employed in all occupations.

Cleveland has 74 Negro street car motormen and conductors. The manager of the Detroit transit line said recently that 20 per cent of the public vehicle operators in that city are colored. Negroes have been employed in the local transit industry in Detroit for many years, and women as well as men have been engaged in operating jobs. MAR 13 1943

The Negro car operator is something of an innovation in San Francisco where, at the present time, two Negro men and three Negro women are engaged as motormen and conductors on the city's transit lines. In Winston-Salem, N. C., Negroes make up the entire personnel of a Negro-owned bus company.

Holding The Line On Wages And Workers

MAY 8 1943

The War Manpower Commission has taken a long step toward compulsion for American Labor. Broadly speaking, no one henceforth may leave an essential job for higher pay in a nonessential one. Transfers from one essential job to another for more money are also forbidden. This will have the effect of freezing in their present work some 27,000,000 people.

Workers will do well to avail themselves of all the possible angles relative to this job-free order and thus avoid necessary loss of time. and even the possibility of some penalty. We believe that whatever confusion existing at present can be avoided by study and understanding.

MAY 8 1943

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

Weekly Review
Birmingham, Ala.

Negro Bus Drivers In Many Cities

March 6, 1943

Negro bus and street car operators, long familiar to strap-hangers in two of the Nation's largest cities, are now being employed in a number of other communities, latest reports of the United States Employment Service to the Transport Personnel Division of the Office of Defense Transportation, show.

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In Buffalo, the USES survey showed, Negroes are being employed not only as operators but as mechanics and truck drivers. Transportation lines in Takoma, Washington, are also utilizing Negroes as bus drivers, and in Tulsa, Okla., a transit company reported that twenty-two Negro bus drivers are among 245 persons employed in all occupations.

Cleveland has seventy-four Negro street car motormen and conductors. The manager of the Detroit transit line said recently that twenty per cent of the public vehicle operators in that city are colored. Negroes have been employed in the local transit industry in Detroit for many years, and women as well as men have been engaged in operating jobs.

The Negro car operator is something of an innovation, San Francisco where, at the present time, two Negro men and three Negro women are engaged as motormen and conductors on the city's transit lines. In Winston-Salem, N. C., Negroes make up the entire personnel of a Negro-owned bus company.

Nashville, Tenn., Banner
June 7, 1943

WLB Bans Discrimination Of Workers

Washington, June 7—(AP)—Pay differentials between white and Negro labor were under War Labor Board ban today, governed by a decision in a case from Texas.

Directing the Southport Petroleum Company of Texas City to increase the pay of its Negro employes to parity with white workers of the same classification, the board held that "economic and political discrimination on account of race or creed is in line with the Nazi program."

Dr. Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina and public member of the board, wrote the opinion, which called the case "small but significant" and reported that "to the credit of the company" the concert accepted the order in good faith and spirit.

"In this small but insignificant case the National War Labor Board abolishes the classification 'colored laborer' and 'white laborer' and reclassifies both simply as 'laborers' with the same rate of pay for all in that classification without discrimination on account of color," Dr. Graham's opinion said.

He explained the wage increase for Negroes was made without regard to the Little Steel formula "but with regard simply for the democratic formula of equal pay for equal work in quantity and quality in the same classification. "This equality of economic opportunity is not a violation of the sound American provision of differentials in pay for differences in skills," the opinion continued.

"It is rather a bit of realization of the no less sound American principle of equal pay for equal work as one of those equal rights in the promise of American democracy regardless of color, race, sex, religion, or national origin."

"Economic and political discrimination on account of race or creed is in line with the Nazi program . . ," Dr. Graham continued.

"The Negro is necessary for winning the war, and, at the same time, is a test of our sincerity in the cause for which we are fighting. More hundreds of millions of colored people are involved in the outcome of this war than the combined populations of the Axis powers.

"Under Hitler and his master race, their movement is backward to slavery and despair. In America, the colored people have the freedom to struggle for freedom. With the victory of the Democracies, the human destiny is toward freedom, hope, equality of opportunity and the gradual fulfilment for all peoples of the noblest aspirations of the brothers of men and the sons of God, without regard to color or creed, religion or race, in the world neighborhood of human brotherhood."

All members of the board concurred in the opinion.

Weekly Review
Birmingham, Ala.

Next Year You May Be Jobless

MAY 22 1943

15 MILLION SEEN OUT OF WORK AFTER WAR ;URGES NEGRO WORKERS TO STOP WASTING BIG WARTIME WAGES; WATCH CONDUCT, CREATE FRIENDS PLAN FOR FUTURE, SAYS SPAULDING

NEW YORK, May —(ANP) —Pointing to the fact that the present employment situation is artificial, produced by the necessities of our war time economy, C. C. Spaulding of Durham, president of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company and president emeritus of the National Negro Business league, in an interview here this week said he hoped that his people would not be like the foolish virgins during this boom period and waste all their substance, but that they would instead salt away some of the excellent wages being made.

He urged likewise that every worker on a new job treat that job as though it were his life's opportunity, delivering such sterling performance that he would have a fair opportunity of holding that job against all comers when the present demand for labor eases off. Too, he advised, one who is fortunate enough to have a good job ought to make such a record with it that when that employer needs another man he will look for a Negro purely on the basis of the performance of those already working for him.

"Those of you who are familiar with the address delivered by Maj. Gen. Phillip B. Fleming, the administrator of the government's federal work program, before the Sales Executive's club here Tuesday, know," said Mr. Spaulding, "that he predicted there would be 15,000,000 persons out of work in the United States after the war. He felt that industries such as shipbuilding, aircraft production and machine building alone would discharge some 6,000,000 people.

"He felt that those industries which are now manufacturing war products but which would turn to replenishng peace time needs, might takea million workers, but transportation would lose 400,000. Perhaps 5,000,000 Gen. Fleming said, would retire from the labor market. These would include women who would return again to the home ,but there would not be nearly enough persons to absorb the returning soldiers whom he estimated as being 11,000,000, 7,500,000 of whom will be discharged as soon as the war is over and 3,500,000 more who will be kept on police duty for a while.

MAY 22 1943

Gen. Fleming, who remember was formerly in charge of WPA the organization which had such long relief rolls all over the nation. No one should be better able to guage the impact and result on employment of our returning soldiers. The lessons of the recent depression ought to be fresh in our minds and furnish an incentive for us to try to solidify our positions in industry today, to create a reputation for efficency as individuals so that it may become characteristic of the group and save our money so that no matter what befalls we won't be compelled to return to the bread lines and relief rolls .

"I have been very interested in the articles and editorials in the Negro press of the country, attacking he manners, language, and dress of Negro war workers who have come under their observation.. There is no use disguising our faults from ourselves. It occurs to me that our race needs to have its attention called to its shortcomings. I feel it is a matter which should be kept constantly before our group and I feel, also, that the Negro press offers a fine medium of expression."

Pickens, S. C. Sentinel
June 27, 1943

Beveridge Says Negroes Should Remain In South

JACKSON. Miss., June 26.—(AP) Sir William Beveridge, British economist and author of the widely known "Beveridge plan" of social security, said here last night that he has found the negro peculiarly suited to Southern agriculture and particularly to the Mississippi delta.

For that reason, he told a group of planters and business men, the negro should be encouraged to remain in this part of the country rather than to migrate to other sections.

Sir William made his observations here after spending several days in the Mississippi delta and attending meetings at Memphis, Clarksdale and Greenville. He left today for Birmingham.

Senate Committee Commends Shipyards Employing Negroes

MAY 22 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Several shipyards where thousands of Negro workers are employed in skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled capacities were cited this week by a Senate investigating committee among "the best and most efficient producers" of Liberty Ships and naval vesesels.

Given special commendation on performance records by the Special Committee Investigating the National Defense Program, of which Senator Harry S. Truman is chairman, were the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company of Virginia and its subsidiary, the North Carolina Shipbuilding Corporation of Wilmington, N. C.

War Manpower Commission employment reports indicate that in November 1942, more than 8,200 Negroes were employed as machine operators, blacksmiths, painters, dismantlers, stage builders, riggers, bolters, drillers, slab benders, erectors, riveters and in a number of other skilled and semi-skilled capacities at the Newport News yards and that more than 5,300 Negroes were employed in similar capacities by the North Carolina Shipbuilding Corporatin. Negroes constituted 27.4 per cent of all employees in the Virginia yards and 29.8 in the North Carolina yard.

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Other yards discussed in the Shipbuildin, and Shipping Report of the Truman Committee included the Richmond, Cal., yards of the Kaiser Company where more than 6,100 Negroes are employed as boilermakers, shipfitters, shipwrights, stage riggers, joiners, sheet metal workers and in other capacities; the Bethlehem Fairfield yards in Baltimore, Md., where more than 6,200 Negroes are employed in skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled capacities, and the California Shipbuilding Corporation being built in the Bethlehem-Fairfield Yard.

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Liberty Ship named for a Negro. The SS George Washington Carver was recently launched at the Kaiser Richmond Yard No. 1, and SS Booker T, Washington, first assisted in the construction of the SS Frederick Douglass is now

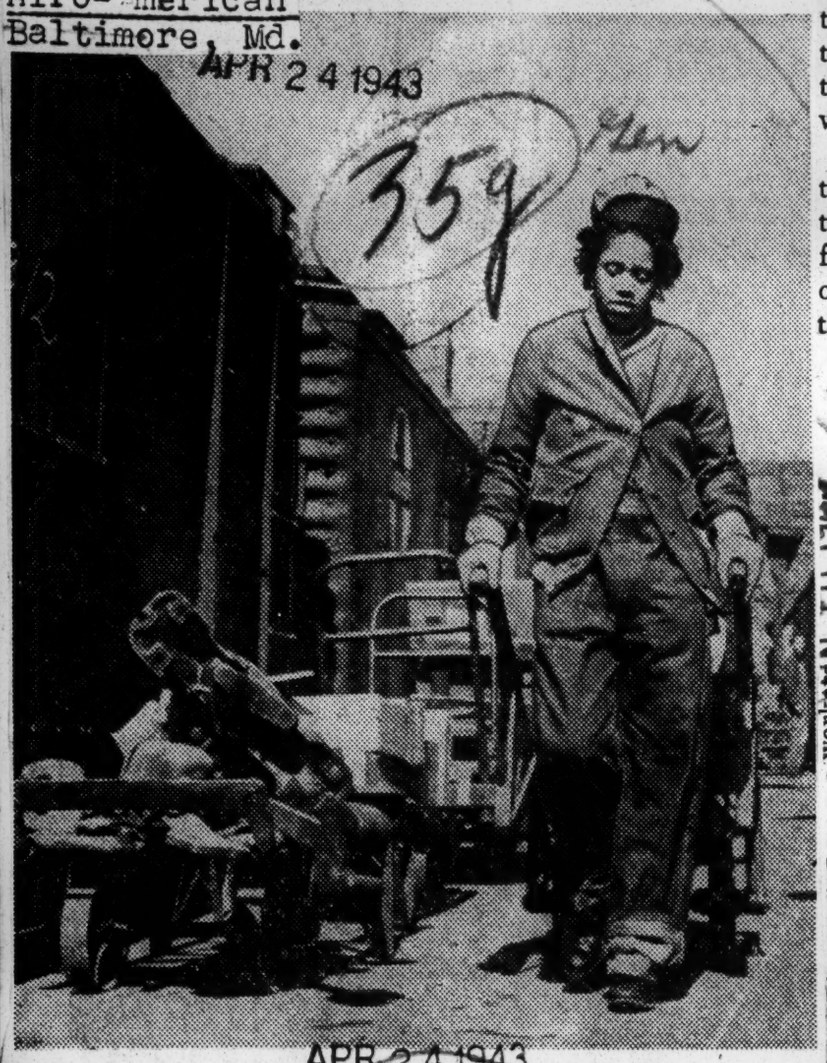
DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

35g-1943

General

Women Do Harder Work

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
APR 24 1943



Women are not occupying as many different jobs as they did during World War I when 100,000 were employed at the peak. However, says Office of War Information, in this war women are undertaking harder jobs than their predecessors in World War I. This woman, for instance, is hauling freight on a hand cart.

New Masses
New York, N. Y

A Sock at Hitler



IT WOULD be hard to exaggerate the importance of the War Labor Board's unanimous decision abolishing pay differentials between white and Negro workers performing equal work. Here is a decisive step toward winning the war, toward infusing vitality into the solemn words of the Atlantic Charter. For the Negro people, in their struggle for equal citizenship, not only was the decision itself truly historic—so was the opinion which accompanied it. Written by Frank P. Graham, public member of the WLB and president of the University of North Carolina, the document should not be decimated by brief quotation or paraphrased.

One passage of the WLB decision may, however, be quoted for its pertinence to another magnificent event which followed it by a few days—the gigantic Madison Square Garden Negro Freedom Rally of June 7. That passage is: "More hundreds of millions of colored people are involved in the outcome of this war than the combined populations of the Axis powers. Under Hitler and his Master Race, their movement is backward to slavery and despair. In America the colored people have the freedom to struggle for freedom."

As if for the very purpose of giving immediate reality to this statement the greatest demonstration of Negro and white unity ever held in New York City, and probably anywhere in the world, took place under Negro auspices at the Freedom Rally. Twenty thousand jammed Madison Square Garden and 10,000-15,000 others crowded the surrounding streets. Nearly all types of patriotic Negro organizations were represented by their leaders, trade union officials from both the CIO and AFL were there to express solidarity between organized labor and the struggles of the Negro people; about twenty percent was white, indicating that the Negroes were not fighting alone for their right of equal participation in the winning of the war.

Beyond all else, the rally demonstrated that the Negro people are fully aware of the meaning of this war, that their demand for complete citizenship is an essential part of their eagerness for full participation in the fight.

JUN 22 1943

Pay Differentials Ruled Out for Rubber Workers

The Wednesday decision granting equal hourly wage increases, approximately 76,000 rubber plant employees, including hundreds of colored workers in the U.S. Companies affected are Goodrich, New York; B. F. Goodrich, Goodyear Tire and Rubber, Rubber, and Firestone Tire and Rubber, on an earlier all of Akron.

Charleston, S. C. News-Courier
August 2 1942

Martin Urges Trade Study

The role of the Charleston district office of the United States department of commerce in aiding international and domestic trade was described by C. W. Martin, district manager, at the weekly luncheon meeting of the Civitan club yesterday, at the Francis Marion hotel.

The Charleston office is now observing its thirteenth anniversary, Mr. Martin said. It is now assisting businessmen in understanding the many complex wartime regulations and in guiding them to the appropriate agency or official administering these regulations.

"Recently, several agencies have displayed unusual interest in and have been furnished data on the purchasing power of the negro population, and more than ordinary interest has been shown for facts that have been provided on the population movements caused by war production in a general study concerning changes in sales areas," Mr. Martin said.

The post-war world will see advanced opportunities for American manufacturers who wish to engage in foreign trade, he said, and he advised his hearers to study the approved methods. The district office is ready and willing to aid, and its weekly letter is available free on receipt of a written request.

"Today is none to soon to start planning to enter markets that will be hungry for your goods," Mr. Martin declared.

Mr. Martin was introduced by C. R. Woodard, president of the Propeller club of the Port of Charleston. Murray Brockman, president of the Civitans, in thanking the speaker, said that Charleston should get ready now to share in world trade after the war, and that if Charleston does not, other ports will.

J. Seabrook Oliver asked the Civitan club to support the circus to be sponsored by the junior chamber of commerce. On motion of Ernest Madebach, the club took twenty tickets which will be given to servicemen. I. H. Jacobson was a guest at the meeting.

JUN 22 1943

Increase In Negroes Employment Of Negroes

Slow, But Steady

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON—(S N S)—Figures released by the War Manpower Commission today show a slow but steady increase in war industry employment of Negroes.

The Negro labor force, WMC officials stated, is concentrated in that part of the country where a relatively small proportion of war contracts are being executed. Those areas and a large proportion of Negro working force in them are engaged in essential agriculture. Two-thirds of the country's Negro labor supply is confined to 14 southern states, whereas, only 13.5 per cent of total War contracts have been awarded in those states. Even in some areas of concentrated Negro population where war contracts have created a stringent labor market, utilization of the local supply of Negro workers is impeded by employers, union and worker prejudice. Where Negroes are freely employed, they are generally engaged only in the lower classification of skills and have relatively little opportunity for upgrading.

JUN 27 1943

War Manpower Commission Lists Figures

Negro workers now comprise 5.3 per cent of total employment in the 12 million workers employed in establishments reporting to the U. S. Employment service in July, 1942 in March 1943, 937,000 non-1942, and November, 1942.

whites were employed in 16,000 establishments, representing 6.7 per cent of the 14,678,000 workers in those establishments. Month to month changes showed a steady increase in the number and proportion of Negroes employed.

EMPLOYMENT VARIES

While more Negroes have been employed in nearly all war industries, the increase has been uneven, and pyrotechnics industry and less slight in some instances and marked in others. The number of Negroes at work in tank factories more than doubled during the period reported, while total employment in that industry increased only 31.3 per cent. In the aircraft industry, which employs the largest number of Negroes, the increase was 7.3 per cent. In the shipbuilding industry, Negro employment increased only 5.6 per cent. In comparison with 30.1 per cent of total employment in bituminous coal mining, 23.1 per cent and in blast furnaces, steel works and rolling mills, 12.2 per cent.

The fuller utilization of Negroes as one of our most important manpower sources has been a major concern of WMC officials throughout the country and the efforts of the local offices of the U. S. Employment service have materially aided the project.

It was pointed out, however, that the increased employment of Negroes in war industry, gratifying as it was, did not represent an adequate utilization of Negroes in some areas and some plants. The proportion of Negroes in war industries, it was stated, is not yet

CONFINED TO 14 STATES

JUN 27 1943

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Progress in Negro employment varies widely throughout areas of the country, WMC officials said. Mobile, Alabama, which a year ago was an outstanding example of under utilization of Negro labor shows considerable improvement although many available Negro workers are not employed. Negroes comprise nearly two-fifths of the labor force in that city but only one-fifth of war industry employment. Some of the most important firms, officials said, which formerly employed few or no Negroes now use them in considerable numbers.

GREAT STRIDES

"Los Angeles, it was said, has made great strides in the employment of Negroes. Non-white employment in 118 major firms engaged in the manufacture of war necessities increased almost fourfold from May to December, 1942, while total employment grew about 50 per cent. In May, Negroes made up only 1.1 per cent of the total in aircraft. They increased from 1,012 in May to more than 5,000 in December, of which a large number were women on production jobs.

A survey of Baltimore showed increased use of Negroes in war industries and a greater diversity of occupation. The most important plants increased their Negro employment approximately 100 per cent during 1942. Negroes are being used in skilled and semi-skilled jobs in shipbuilding, aircraft, electrical machinery and ordnance. Large numbers of Negro women are being used in most of these industries.

The Hampton Roads, Virginia area, one of the first to employ Negroes in war work, continued to make progress in the utiliziation of Negro labor, WMC oficials said. In February, 1943, four government establishments and the largest private contractor employed 17,000 Negroes, of whom 2,000 were skilled and 7,000 semi-skilled.

Not only discriminatory practices are responsible for the failure of some war industried to employ Negroes in proportionate numbers the fact that relaitvely few Negroes have had industrial experience, and even fewer have had either training or experience in skilled occupations hampers their employment as well. Employment of large additional numbers of Negroes in industrial jobs calls for an extensive training program. This is a necessity, WMC officials said, whether additional Negroes for war industries are transferred from other activities to war industries or are persons newly entering the labor market.

RECEIVING TRAINING

As a consequence of this fact, officials said, increasing numbers of Negroes are receiving training for jobs in shipbuilding, aircraft manufacturing and munitions industries. On March 31, 1943 non-white enrollments in pre-employment training courses of the vocational training for war workers program were twice as great as a year ago.

Similarly, it was stated, enrollments of Negroes attending office of education supplementary courses open to employed war workers tripled during the year.

Office of education statistics indicate that Negroes are enrolling in different courses this year than last year. Whereas approximately one-third of the non-whites enrolled in pre-employment courses between July, 1942, and March, 1943, were attending aircraft and shipbuilding classes, only one-fifth were enrolled in these courses during these months in 1941-42. On the other hand, only 4 per cent of these non-white trainees were enrolled in automobile mechanic and foundry clases in 1942-43 as compared with more than 20 per cent during the previous year.

Increase in Negro enrollments were noticeable in other WMC training programs, officials said. The number of non-white youths employed on NYA training projects increased from 11 per cent of the total in March of last year to almost 20 per cent in March 1943. Although it was pointed out, the increase was not been so marked in engineering, and war management war training courses, more than 3,000 Negroes were enrolled in these courses at the end of March, 1943, as compared with fewer than 1,000 in March, 1942.

Leaders Unite to Extend Hold Jobs for Race

Afro-American
Baltimore Md.

CHICAGO—(ANP)—Efforts to extend present employment opportunities for colored people in American industry and protect those gains after the declaration of peace were intensified at a conference here recently.

The meeting created a Chicago Charter Committee on Employment to impress uppon colored workers the importance of personal appearance and conduct on the job, the necessity for work efficiency and cutting down of absenteeism.

Franklin Heads Group

The conference set aside the week of September 13, as Hold-Your-Job Week in which appeals will be made to workers to increase their efficiency and maintain good conduct, and in which employers and government agencies would be urged to extend employment opportunities.

C. A. Franklin, publisher Kansas City CALL, was elected chairman of the committee, and Horace Cayton, director Parkway Community Center here, was elected secretary.

FWA Workers Get $4,000,000

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 29—Negro construction workers on 656 war public works projects throughout the country have earned nearly $4,000,000 in wages since the beginning of the program, according to a report submitted this week to Major General Philip B. Fleming, Administrator of the Federal Works Agency, by W. J. Trent, Jr., Racial Relations Officer.

Wages paid to Negroes represented 18 per cent of the total payroll on these projects. Of this amount, more than $500,000 went to skilled mechanics.

ONE-THIRD OF PAY ROLLS

More than one-third of the total payrolls on projects in the District of Columbia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi was earned by Negro labor. In South Carolina, Negro workers earned 24 per cent of the skilled payroll; in Kentucky and North Carolina, 14 per cent, and in Missisippi 12 per cent.

Under contractual provisions war public works contractors are required to employ Negroes in proportion to their availability in the communities in which the project is located. Monthly reports on racial employment are submitted to the Federal Works Agency.

Christian Recorder
Philadelphia, Pa.

RACIAL EQUALITY

By a unanimous decision the War Labor Board has supported the principle of equal pay for equal work by Negro and white laborers. WLB's opinion, delivered by a Southerner, Dr. Frank P. Graham, accords with the doctrine of racial equality before the law which has for long been a cardinal principle of American democracy.

The decision does not mean that all Negroes and whites are to be paid alike irrespective of the quality and quantity of work they do. It does carry with it an assurance that as far as the WLB can rerach differences in wages will not be influenced by a color line.

The myth of a superior race has been one of the most inhuman of Hitler's doctrines. It has led Germans to practice cruelty and oppression upon subject peoples, and to justify their crimes on the theory that "lower" races are not entitled to the same treatment dealt out to "superior" peoples.

American Negroes in this war are making important contributions in labor and money to the success of the cause of the United Nations. The vast majority of them understand that if Hitler's doctrines prevail the future progress of their race is doomed. The War Labor Board has done what it could to assure that no man's pay for his work shall be lowered because of his color.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Negroes to Have Fair Proportion of War Jobs

Negroes represent a growing proportion of the total employment in nearly every war industry, Paul V. McNutt, Chairman, War Manpower Commission, told the executive committee of the National Negro Newspaper Association, Saturday, July 17, and the WMC will continue to promote full utilization of Negro workers.

"The fact that the Fair Employment Practice Committee has been removed from this agency does not mean that Executive Order 8802 will not continue to apply in the War Manpower Commission down to the areas and local USES offices," the Chairman stated.

LABORERS GET PARITY IN WAGES

Pittsburgh Pa.
Courier

WASHINGTON, June 10—The National War Labor board this week unanimously ruled that wage classifications based solely on differentials in race were without validity, and ordered the abolition of pay differentials between white and Negro workers performing equal work.

The board directed the Southport Petroleum company of Texas City, Texas, to grant wage increases to its Negro employees which would "place them on a basis of economic parity with the white workers in the same classification."

CIO REPRESENTS PLANT WORKERS

In a far-reaching opinion, Dr. Frank P. Graham, public member of the board and president of the University of North Carolina, explained the board's decision. Dean Wayne L. Morse, public member, who did not participate in the decision on this case, asked special permission to be recorded as concurring in Dr. Graham's opinion.

The board directed the company to institute a reclassification system and to grant in each classification a wage increase of either 5 per cent or 5½ per cent, whichever is higher. These increases will not bring the rates at the Southport field above the minimum of the wage bracket in the prevailing range of rates for other oil fields in the area.

The company's employees are represented by the Oil Workers' International, CIO.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Most Workers at Edgewood Are Colored

BALTIMORE. — Civilian employment at military centers in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia has increased considerably during the past six months, with the largest number of colored workers being found at Edgewood Arsenal near Baltimore.

According to a midyear report released by the Public Relations Office, Headquarters, Third Service Command, 62 per cent of the civilian workers at Edgewood are colored.

Over Half Colored at Pickett

At Camp Pickett, Va., the colored represent more than 53 per cent of the total civilian employees, while at Camp Lee, Virginia, they exceed 40 per cent of the total number of workers. At Fort Meade in Maryland the figure is 33 per cent.

At Fort Story, Va., Fort Eustis, Va., the Base Quartermaster at the Army Air Base, Richmond, Va., Fort Monroe, Va., the army air base, here, the A. P. Hill Military Reservation, Va., between 25 and 33 per cent of the civilian employees are colored.

There are more than seventy military installations in the Third Service Command, where the number of civilian employees ranges from one and two up to one hundred.

The work of these civilians has received high praise of both military officials and civilian supervisors. During the past year the Edgewood workers won special recognition for their production.

Census Survey Shows Dwindling Work Bars

Bee
Chicago, Ill.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 8. (ANP)—The rapidity with which the former gap between white and non-white rates of employ-

JUN 10 1943
JUN 21 1943
JUN 24 1943
JUL 24 1943
JUN 29 1943
JUN 10 1943
JUN 2 1943
JUN 8 1943
JUL 1943

Negro Worker Has Made Stride In Industry During Last Three Years

Kansas City Call

Kansas City, Mo.

By E. VINCENT SUITT

Industrial Secretary, Kansas City Urban League

The Negro worker in the Greater Kansas City area has made and is making progress. He is to be complimented for such progress in industry, organized labor and in his community and national activities.

Three years ago when the Negro worker attempted to gain employment, he was turned away — turned away because "Negroes and whites cannot work together"; because white union members, according to a survey conducted by the local Y.W.C.A. branch Service department and the local Urban League Industrial Relations department, felt that "Negroes are not clean," "Negroes will lower the standard of living," "Negroes are loud," "Negroes are dangerous," etc.

Struggle by Our Workers

It is true that the N.A.A.C.P., Y.W.C.A.'s (Kansas and Missouri), Y.M.C.A., Community League, Negro Defense Council of Greater Kansas City, the Urban League, government agencies, the local news press and other local agencies had a tremendous struggle of selling semi-skilled and skilled Negroes to employers and to unions; but have individuals, agencies (government or otherwise) stopped to think of the struggle had of those workers who were first put on trial—on trial to determine whether more of his black brothers and sisters would be given future gainful employment—on trial to determine whether Negroes and whites could work together—on trial to find whether Negroes had good personal hygiene practices—on trial to find whether Negroes would step from the rear of a worker and slice the workers throat.

Yes—on trial to determine whether Negroes could hold their own in spite of racial defamations. One must keep in mind the strangled attitudes, the bent personalities and the area's social structure all had to be changed in the minds of the worker.

Start at Lowest Job

The Negro worker, in many instances, had to start at the lowest job—oft-times jobs below his capacities. "Negroes by nature are fit only for maid, janitor or labor work." But, by gritting his teeth, looking upward trusting his leaders and mainly, his own faith, he has come from the ditches, the janitor or maid job to that of an operator or an inspector of machines—yes, even to that of a designer, a foreman, and a welfare worker. Great Strides!

A worker one day said to his fellow workers, "I want to make this job for the future; my job will build a road for my children and your children." Like unto it, another intelligent worker said, "In spite of the bad criticisms made by people about us Negro workers, I am going to work like hell and make a place for the future generation." Such expressions are the philosophies coming from under the hats of "the common" man—the Negro worker in Greater Kansas City.

Contributions by Our Workers

Should the writer attempt to mention all of the good acts and good workmanship among the Negro worker in this area, newspapers could not afford the space for such listings.

However, let us consider a few of the noble and high contributions made by our workers —contributions other than production. Negro leaders have been developed in industries—leaders who have made contributions to the socio-economic structure of society by contributing to discussions which concern the Economic Future of the Negro.

Such contributions demonstrate growth of individuals—yes growth to the extent of showing insight, growth laying strong hold on the use of logical sequence of handling information and activities with an addition, to think of the patriotic deeds done for ones country in the time of war.

The Kansas City worker has made and is making contributions to the nation's cigarette campaigns, bomber rallies, War Chest campaigns, and other patriotic movements — contributions that have reached and over-reached the one hundred per cent mark.

Such thought, insight, development and respect—principles that help to build men, women, races and nations—all come from just the worker. The writer pays tribute to his fellow workers: the laborer, the skilled and semi-skilled craftsmen and the industrial worker.

Continued Success

Management and organized labor have played a role that cannot and will not be forgotten. Negroes have gained new jobs, moved into unions and have been given active parts in both institutions. The Negro worker is cognizant of his not procuring all of the gains that are comparable to his qualifications, but nevertheless, the Negro worker realizes that management and organized labor are undergoing a process of industrial and racial education.

We have the three moving under an intelligent sphere of education — an education accepted because the employer, organized labor and the Negro worker are developing together —yes, together as one unit for good human relations and good human actions.

However, development is not complete but with the three new bodies in industry continuing to press forward for all working men and women to take part in industrial verifications and occupational advancements, work psychology, sociology, education and work philosophy, will in the end, pay dividends.

In conclusion the writer wishes to bid the Negro worker in Greater Kansas City continued success. Keep your chin up. Find yourself and your job—go to it for all you are worth. Be on time—make every minute count. Develop a philosophy of self education and that philosophy can be the importance of learning how to learn. Learn yourself, your employer and your fellow worker.

Kansas City Call

Dining Car Men Win $250,000 in Back Pay

Kansas City, Mo.

CHICAGO — (ANP)—Checks amounting to $250,000 of monies deducted from the wages of dining car employes by a railroad company for their board and lodging are being mailed to members of Local 465 with headquarters in Omaha, Neb., this week.

The huge sum was ordered returned to the workers in culmination of negotiations between union officials and representatives of the Union Pacific Railroad company that were initiated back in 1939.

Some 800 members of the union are affected by the award, many receiving checks as high as $700, according to Richard J. Smith, secretary-treasurer of the Joint council of Dining Car Workers with which the local is affiliated. The agreement, he added, is the largest single amount ever won by a Negro labor union in the nation for illegally deducted monies.

"The board and lodging deductions had been taken out of the workers salaries since 1938," he explained. "Many other railroad companies are still taking thousands of dollars from dining car employes in violation of the spirit of wages and hours law and the understanding that carriers are expected to furnish employes with board and lodging free of charges."

Local 465 sent its general chairman, Rufus Long, and its secretary, treasurer, Thomas Reed, to the conferences with the railroads that resulted in the agreement. They based their case upon a series of others won by the Joint Council before the National Railroad Adjustment board.

The Joint Council with headquarters in Chicago is made up of 15 unions of dining car employes throughout the country, with machinery set up to handle these and other such cases. Recently it has been successful in winning several board and lodging cases before the NRAB, notably the Cheasapeake and Ohio, and Leheigh Valley railroad company cases.

White Engineers and Negro Firemen Worked in Harmony Over Fifty Years Ago

Washington, D. C. Tribune

first order. Evidence at the workers.

FEPC hearing showed a shortage "This is no question of Negroes of 850 firemen on American rail- seeking to displace whites. Neroads and terminal com- hearings in September. The railpanies to the President's Com- road unions chose to ignore the mittee on Fair Employment were unemployed and the accepted Practice. Malcolm Ross, the com- carriers were preferring to take mittee chairman, recently issued on green hands, simply because the following statement: there has been for years a some- "This is no question of preventing times tacit and sometimes formal Negroes from being used by the carriers at their and the railroad unions to decrease the number of Negro firemen on locomotives.'

The fireman problem, and the problems of upgrading, job assignments and seniority rights of Negroes in the shops were the subject of four days of FEPC hearings, stated: 'I certainly do not mean to contend that anything in the south would interfere with the employment of Negroes as firemen on locomotives.'

The fireman problem, and the problems of upgrading, job assignments and seniority rights of Negroes in the shops were the subject of four days of FEPC hearings in September. The railroad unions chose to ignore the accepted practice of employing southern white firemen on Diesel-powered engines, preferring to keep the dirty, heavy work with alarm alleged preten- desirable jobs. Racial automatic sions of Negroes to be engineers is not at issue here. perfunctory and conductors. The plain fact letter now makes a bid for pub- is that this issue—necessarily lic disapproval of FEPC by view- covered because complaints were ing with alarm alleged preten- received and no rebuttal offered— sions of Negroes to be engineers with Negro fire- is not at issue here. men and conductors. The plain fact relationships was that this issue—necessarily had decent working is a war problem of the railroads with white men. Sidney Alderman, counsel

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is dormant and could remain so if the railroads offer justice to Negro railroadmen in the classifications where reason and public policy both urge it. Certainly it is not the part of candor to seize upon the most delicate issue in order to avoid the many basic problems squarely placed before the railroads.

WMC Reports 438,000 Non-White Workers Placed In Non-Agricultural Jobs By USES

New York Age New York, N. Y.

Washington, D. C.— More than 438,000 non-white workers were placed in non-agricultural jobs by the United States Employment Service in July, August and September, a report of the War Manpower Commission revealed last week. This represented an increase of 19.5 per cent over similar placement in the April-June period.

Despite an increase for the three-month period, however, non-white placements declined from 155,000 in August to 144,000 in September. The September figures represented 15.5 per cent of the total USES placement of 909,000 persons for that month, but it also showed a decrease of 1.3 per cent below the August rate.

The decline in the rate of non-white placements for September was particularly heavy in New Jersey and Connecticut where such placement were approximately one-half of the previous month These two States, together with Georgia where the decline was 34 per cent, experienced decreases amounting to 8,400.

The Reports and Analysis Service of WMC revealed that 9,163 skilled non-white workers were included among the 438,495 USES placements in the July-September peroid, while 28,143 non-white workers were placed in semi-skilled jobs. Unskilled and other placements accounted for 260,037 non-white workers, and 138,469 were placed in service jobs. Clerical and sales placements amounted to 2,479, while 2404 non-white workers were placed in professional and managerial positions by the USES.

The report cites a heavy concentration of non-white placements in service occupations during September. Although non-white represent less than 16 per cent of the total placements, it was pointed out, they constituted more than one-half of all the placements in service occupations.

Female placements reached an all-time high in September. Such placements exceeded 345,000 and constituted 38 per cent of the total placements of 909,000, and an increase of more than 3 per cent over August. New Hampshire and the District of Columbia reported that more than half of their placements were women.

Except for forestry and fishing, where placements dropped by 56 per cent, and construction, where the decrease was 21 per cent, the major industries did not show significant changes in the number of placements made between August and September.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Concentration of Negro Workers Restricts Needs

Although there has been an increase in the total employment of Negroes in practically every branch of war production, there is a serious time-lag both in the wider use of Negroes among many of the smaller individual firms and in the occupational upgrading of Negroes in all firms, according to the War Manpower Commission.

This concentration of Negroes in a relatively few large firms, together with slow occupational progress generally, has had the effect of restricting the use of Negro workers as a means of meeting immediate labor needs.

The degree to which Negroes are effectively employed varies widely among specific plants, areas, and industries. In the shortage areas of the South, Negroes are concentrated in those establishments and occupations where heavy unskilled work is to be performed. In the South, also with few exceptions, no steps are being taken in the direction of upgrading Negroes to new occupations nor is there any hiring of Negroes to meet the demand of establishments seeking workers for skilled jobs.

In the acute labor shortage areas of the North where war industries are much more diversified than in the South, the utilization of Negroes has progressed much further, but Negro employment is concentrated with respect to occupations, establishments and industries.

THE NEGRO WORKER

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

One of the many problems that will confront the Negro after this war, is the problem of employment. We are at the present moment absorbed in the complex processes necessary to the winning of the war. But we must not forget that peace may bring untold suffering due partly to industrial displacement, and partly to outright discrimination.

By the time the war ends, the moral forces of President Roosevelt's Executive Order forbidding racial discrimination in the employment policy of industrial plants will have spent itself. Industries which are now chafing under the order, will not hesitate to revert to their peace time method of preferential and discriminative selection of workers. We suspect that they will be the first to eliminate the black worker from their consideration.

The conversion of war plants into peace-time industries may require anywhere from six months to a year. But even though the gap be bridged in a shorter period, there is no guarantee that the Negro would be accorded appropriate consideration. He may be out of work not only for six months or a year but for an indeterminate period. In the meantime he must feed and house himself and family; he must clothe his children and provide them with the necessary incidentals to their schooling. His employment compensation or social security will not be enough. He will have to look to the state or the federal government for assistance. The question is: Will the government be able to engage in large scale relief? The prospects are not optimistic.

Negro organization should not leave the economic readjustment of our people to the whims of politicians or to incidental treatment. They should do something now to prevent the tragic invalidation of the gains made under the stress of war.

SOUTHERN SAY-SO

Impoverishment of Land, Labor Keeps the South Poor

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

By M. S. STUART

The South has for several decades been letting its good labor and good land get away from it; the labor going up the valleys to Northern and Eastern cities, while the land washed down the valleys to the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean.

The erosion of the land and the egression of the labor, both could have been prevented. Both have been exploited and impoverished to gratify an eagerness for overnight wealth and great power in the hands of landed overlords and commercial aggressors. Sincere, long range interest in the welfare of the land and the labor have been overlooked.



Mr. Stuart

It is encouraging to note that steps to overcome the effects of this short-sighted practice in the Tri-State territory are meeting with success.

COMFORTABLE LIVING FOR THE PRODUCERS

On December 3, at the Manassas High school in Memphis, the sixth anniversary of the Live-at-Home competition was celebrated by a helpful program of three hours through which several white and many colored people sat with unflagging interest.

THE movement is sponsored and supported by the Memphis Commercial Appeal, the Memphis Chamber of Commerce and the Negro Chamber of Commerce of Memphis The overall objective is, as its name implies, to encourage better living in better homes on better land in the rural areas; and to the extent that this objective is realized, better people, well-off people, will result. More than $1,700 was awarded in prizes to more than 100 Negro winners, selected from among more than 50,000 Negro farmers, representing a family population of some 187,000.

Johnnie and Fannie White, Route 1, Strong, Arkansas, carried away the sweeptakes prize of $250. They own 120 acres of land, and for the family of six have spent a little more than $1 per week for store-bought food. They estimate the value of the home-produced foodstuffs they consumed during the year at $813.

The Tenant Sweepstakes Award of $100, offered by the Memphis Negro Chamber, was won by Lester and Agnes Hatchett of Turrell, Ark.

ONE POINT OMITTED

The Live-At-Home program stresses Soil Conservation, Crop Diversification, Better Farm and Home Management. But one important point—Better Community Management—has been omitted. Well-off people do not always make for better communities. A lack of genuine, warm, neighborly feeling often causes a sense of insecurity, which creates discontentment. A home without contentment is not a good home, no matter the degree of material well being.

IN AWARDING the prize to Johnnie White, Martin Zook, of the white Chamber of Commerce, awoke a train of thought that is still running, when he said, that Adolph Hitler does not have enough power to take Johnnie's little farm away from him, meaning that the prize winner is secure in the enjoyment of his possesssions. But really is he? Can Mr. Zook or any other noble spirited Southern white leader guarantee security to Negroes? About 75 miles to the south of where Johnnie lives, a white mob murdered a young Negro a few years past. Nothing was done about it. Not so far to the northwest of Johnnie's place, Negro soldiers were forbidden to use the highways and, in other respects, abused a year or two past. No one was punished for interfering with the Army of the strongest nation in the world.

If, anonymously, or on purely imaginary grounds, any one or two white people should notify Johnnie and his wife to leave their little farm, the fairest minded white leaders could do nothing about it, and Johnnie and his wife would know better than to stay and defend themselves. At least that is the usual way things have been managed.

THE BEST ROAD, NEVERTHELESS

But this is not intended for a chill bath for the Live-At-Home program. Despite conditions mentioned above. Negroes all over the South should enthusiastically join in all worthy programs in which white people are willing to work with them. Only by so doing can the time be hastened when good white leaders shall have supporting them sentiment strong enough to guarantee community security, which is one of the necessities for contented home life for Negroes in the South.

THE Live-At-Home movement, with similar enterprises, is the best road for Negroes to travel towards community and economic security.

Labor, Farmers Ask Fair Taxes

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

The CIO, National Farmers Union, Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, National Women's Trade Union League of America, the League of Women Shoppers and National Lawyers Guild united in support of a common federal tax program.

In a joint statement issued today, the heads of these organizations, Philip Murray, James G. Patton, A. F. Whitney, William H. Hastie, Elizabeth Christman, Katherine Armatage and Robert J. Kenny respectfully urged Congress to adopt a nine-point tax program calling for:

1. Increased individual income tax rates on middle and higher incomes, along with a $25,000 ceiling on net incomes, after taxes.

2. Restoration of income tax exemptions to $750 for single persons, $1,500 for married couples, and $400 for each dependent.

3. Increased tax rates on corporations with incomes above $25,000 beyond the existing 40 per cent rate.

4. All profits above four to five per cent of invested capital to be taxed as excess profits, with loopholes closed.

5. Repeal of the "victory" tax.

6. Elimination of special privileges so as to provide for mandatory joint returns, the taxation of state and municipal securities and the elimination of percentage depletion allowances for owners of mines and oil and gas wells.

7. Increased tax rates and lower exemptions for estates and gifts.

8. Heavy excise taxes on luxuries and non-essentials.

9. Vigorous opposition to a general federal sales tax.

WAGES STABILIZED

In support of the nine-point program, the joint statement declared: "While wages have been stabilized, prices have skyrocketed and business profits have soared. To saddle upon the worker and farmer with small incomes added tax burdens, is to threaten the entire home front. Workers cannot produce weapons of war without adequate food and shelter and clothing and other necessities for themselves and their families. To impose additional levies upon business and upon middle and high income groups is to recapture war profits and to put into practice the democratic principle of taxation according to ability to pay, while at the same time siphoning off the most dangerously inflationary incomes.

"Such a program," the joint statement said, "will raise substantial revenues to meet the cost of the war. Such a program is necessary in order to siphon off the most dangerously inflationary incomes, and at the same time to prevent further inroads on the already ominously low standard of living of the men and women fighting the war in the factories, the fields and the workshops. Such a program, through its fairness and its adherence to democratic tax principles, will contribute immeasurably to victory on the battle fields and on the home front."

This joint action is seen as indicative of the determination of labor and progressive organizations to make their voice felt in Congress in the shaping of new tax legislation.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 3 (UP).—The Treasury lays before Congress tomorrow an unprecedented revenue program calling for $10,650,000,000 in new income and excise taxes, including $3,560,000,000 refundable after the war, and all evidence indicates it will touch off one of the longest and stiffest legislative fights of the year.

Details of the plan confirm that President Roosevelt apparently is counting on a scheduled automatic Jan. 1 doubling of the $1,200,000,000 Social security taxes to raise the total of new revenue near his $12,000,000,000 objective.

Cognizant of the obstacles, the Administration will begin outlining its program to the ways and means group tomorrow.

This is what the treasury will ask for:

1. An increase from 40 to 58 per cent in the normal and surtax corporate income tax rates to produce $1,110,000,000.

2. A $6,610,000,000 hike in individual income taxes, $3,050,000,000 to be paid with no strings and $3,560,000,000 to be refunded after the war.

There would be a $500 limit, however, on the amount refundable to any individual. It would be stipulated further that if the post-war rebate is in cash, repayment will be 75 cents on the dollar; if in government insurance or annuities, the full amount.

Exemptions for married persons would be cut from $1,200 to $1,100 and for each dependent from $350 to $300. Single person's exemptions of $500 would be unchanged.

To achieve the increases in individual taxes, the witholding tax would be boosted to about 30 per cent from the present 20. Persons in the $5,000 to $25,000 income bracket would feel an especially heavy impact.

3. Increases totaling $2,530,000,000 in excise taxes and many other minor levies, including the following:

4. A $400,000,000 increase in estate and gift taxes accomplished by reducing the present $50,000 exemption to $40,000.

Enactment of this full program would raise federal revenues from the present $38,239,000,000 expected this fiscal year to $48,889,000,000, slightly less than the $50,000,000,000 the President wants to raise by taxes to pay half the nation's war costs directly. With the social security increase taking effect in addition, the objective would be attained.

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

BETWEEN THE LINES

By
DEAN GORDON B. HANCOCK
For ANP

The Greatest Week

During the week there are many "weeks" observed, but the forthcoming Hold-Your-Job week is the greatest. It shows that the Negro is at last getting down to brass tacks and facing the ugly facts of his circumscribed life.

Fifteen years ago this column launched a Hold-Your-Job campaign that has never been popular among Negroes. It was largely a one-man affair and one-man affairs are, in the nature of things limited in their usefulness. In an article to Opportunity entitled "When the Manna Faileth" there was outlined for the first time the danger that was surrounding the Negro workers in their several fields. It was pointed out that whites were competing on every level, whereas 40 years ago whites were above certain "Negro jobs." Even in this article it was pointed out the displacement of Negroes by whites was a well-defined movement that the Negro would do well to study seriously.

The article won for me the title "Gloomy Dean" which has since become a badge of honor in that it indicates how clearly I was facing the issues. The only way that Negroes could survive the ruthless competition about them was to hold-his-job with a religious tenacity. The future of the Negro in this country was conditioned upon his conversion to the religion of the Hold-Your-Job gospel.

Negroes Going Crazy?

So persistently did I preach the Hold-Your-Job gospel that one lady said I was crazy. Said she, "That man must be crazy, Negroes don't want jobs, they want positions." She had two sons both of whom aspired for "positions" but had to be content with jobs, as most Negroes have to do. That dear lady did not seem to appreciate the fact that jobs must underlie all positions. No position is secure unless there are jobs behind it. The emerging of hundreds of Negro graduates each year with their various degrees, only makes imperative the need for more jobs. So when Negroes lay aside everything and go about the observance of a Hold-Your-Job week they are not going crazy but are "going wise."

The common sense tied up in such laudable enterprise is one of the most encouraging features of the whole matter. It is fine to hitch our wagons to the stars of positions; but it is not amiss also to hitch them to the job by which men in positions live and move and have their being. The people in Jerusalem thought Peter and the Apostles had had new wine when they preached with such power; no, they had not had new wine, they had gotten a good glimpse of the possibilities inherent in the preaching of the gospel. So men may not understand the meaning of this common sense movement to glorify the job; but this will become clearer later on when millions of men and women returned from the fighting fronts to have jobs at all costs.

The Negro has always been the first fired and the last hired and so in the days before us unless the Negro digs in now and digs deep, he is doomed in the post-war world. Those Negroes who are thus sponsoring the Hold-Your-Job week are doing the race an everlasting service. They are not only "going crazy," but they are actually "gone wise" in a way that Negroes must go wise if they survive in this country.

Negroes Need Plain Talk

There has been launched in a very subtle way a movement to improve the public behavior of Negroes. This is as it should be. The fact that whites are so poorly mannered in many cases does not excuse the Negro. That bad-mannered white man has a hundred advantages of the bad-mannered Negro. Before the public these bad mannered whites are called delinquents and the bad mannered Negroes are called criminals. When whites are overtaken in faults it is a matter of circumstances; when Negroes are taken it is their race.

Negroes need therefore admonition as to their manners and the subtle campaigns along this line are strictly in order. As soon as we get through with the Hold-Your-Job campaign let's launch one called Negro Don't Spend All This Easy Money for Good Times campaign. Negroes must not spend all their money for the big time that is too often followed by great woes.

More of this plain talk of the Hold-Your-Job kind will be an untold blessing. Negroes alone can speak plainly to Negroes.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Continuation Of 'Hold Your Job' Drive Urged

Recent Program Successful On National Front

WASHINGTON (CNS)— The "Hold Your Job" Program hit a high mark September 12-18 all over America, with radio programs, sermons, mass meetings, clinics, theater trailers, and newspaper campaign going into barbershops, poolrooms, beauty shops, taverns, etc. Reports coming into the National Committee from all over the country show that the Negro public is anxious to help do something to secure its place in post-war employment.

Although "Hold Your Job" week is over, the National Committee strongly urges national and local organizations, churches and individuals to continue "Hold Your Job" programs for the duration. The Committee feel that this type of program is another front on which the Negro must fight. In addition to getting new and better jobs, and in addition to helping to solve the problems of discrimination and segregation, there is the responsibility devolved upon workers to keep the gains made, as a result of these efforts, by seeing to it that their behavior and work

Reports coming into the National Committee is definitely sure that local communities Ninth Street, N. W., Washington "Hold Your Job" Committee, 181 ... Your ... are requested to send in ... pictures, pla... of your ac... the week, to the National ... activities of the ...

THE HORIZON

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

This Is the Week To Start the Drive to Get a Firm and Lasting Grip on Your Job

BY P. L. PRATTIS

RIGID exclusion of the Negro from the most profitable fields of employment, and the adoption of this pattern of exclusion as a definite factor of the so-called American way came about so quietly that few Negroes knew to what low estate they had sunk in the job mart until 1940. Negroes did not know that they were being methodically and deliciously driven out of industry. They knew that certain labor unions were excluding them, but they did not understand that management desired to get along without the black worker. Of course, there had always been bars of a kind against the Negro worker. But this same worker had been hopeful that these bars were relics of slavery and the Reconstruction period and that they would wear away. He had no idea that custom was going to depress his status with the same certitude as the infamous Black Codes. He had had some experience losing jobs after World War. That period gave currency to the expression that "the Negro is the last hired, the first fired." The black worker always hoped to beat the tragic implications of that expression. He simply did not want to believe that a time might come when no Negroes would be hired.



Mr. Prattis

1940 OPENED EYES

THEN came the depression with millions of jobless Negroes. Even in the South where certain classes of menial jobs had by custom been yielded to him, the Negro found himself displaced by the poor white who needed work. Closer anad closer to the periphery of economic desperation, the Negro was pushed. Some Negroes regarded their plight philosophically. There weren't enough jobs to go around. Whites needed jobs. Negroes needed jobs. Certainly the whites would get most of the jobs first. But, as more and more jobs became available in better times, the Negro would be given a fair share of them too. That is what the average black worker hoped.

Up until 1940 the black worker really had not sensed what had taken place. He didn't realize that there had been a sort of meeting of minds throughout America and that there existed a cold-blooded understanding not to use the hands and skills of Negroes in the vast majority of gainful pursuits. That only became apparent with the approach of the war emergency and the call for workers. Black workers thought they would be called, too, but they weren't. Vast industrial enterprises went into operation, employing thousands and thousands of workers, but the doors were slammed hard in the face of the black man.

JOBS BY FORCE

NEGRO leadership became alarmed and, in June, 1941, extracted from the President, Executive Order 8802, banning discrimination against Negro workers in public or private industry engaged in the defense effort. This order was later amended and implemented in Executive Order 9346.

However, a bare fact stares Negroes in the face. Most of the jobs he now has have been obtained through force, either the force of the necessity of the war program or the fear of punishment for violating Executive Order 9346. There is no great body of evidence to show that the mind and heart of the American employer has fundamentally changed toward the black worker. There is no evidence to prove that the employer is going to keep the Negro worker when jobs become scarcer. There is no evidence to show that the black soldier who returns from foreign battlefronts is going to be given a job.

CAMPAIGN OPENS TO HOLD JOBS

IT is to prevent a return to the cold-blooded exclusion status of 1940 that some Negro leaders have already exercised themselves to do something now, to insure jobs for Negroes after the war. This is "National Hold-Your-Job" week. It is a beginning, not an end. It is the beginning of a campaign that should last as long as the war lasts, and far into the peace, to perfect understandings with the white employer, the white worker, with government, with communities, with unions and with the black worker, to see that Negroes are given an American's chance to make a living in the post-war period. There is to be no let-up and no stone is to be left unturned. Certainly white employers, white workers, white communities and the government have some responsibility toward the black worker, but it is fully recognized that he has some responsibility for himself as well. Now that jobs have been forced into the hands of black workers, they must accept the challenge to prove themselves They cannot afford to stop with doing just as good a job as the average white worker. They must try to do as good a job as the best white workers. Their conduct on the job must be beyond reproach. They must be punctual and reduce their absenteeism to an absolute minimum. If the black worker can prove that he represents the best group of labor material America has, he will have gone a long way to insure a post-war job for himself and for our returning soldiers.

WORKERS' RESPONSIBILITY

Responsibility for the kind of record the black workers make rests more with them than it does with so-called Negro leadership. Every black worker should be a brother and helper to every other black worker. The workers who propose to do the right thing should by example and persuasion seek to improve the workers who have not quite caught on.

Every Negro on the job now should realize that the black man who handles his job carelessly is dealing carelessly with the job security of every other Negro. Speak to that careless worker. Reason with him. Help him if you can. The workers themselves can organize forces within their own communities to fasten attention on the necessity for Negro workers making the best possible records. Make "Hold Your Job" a slogan. Play fair with your union and with your employer. Give your employer the production he seeks and your union the loyalty it needs. Let this week be only the starting gun so far as you and your job are concerned. Dig in and make such a record on your job that it will last as long as you last.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Pullman Laundry Workers Get Pay Hike

WASHINGTON

In what is the first major victory for the Pullman laundry workers of the country, the United Transport Service Employees of America, CIO, was granted a 10-cent hourly wage increase by the Special Railroad Labor Panel last week.

The increase, retroactive to October 1, 1942, goes into effect this week at the various Pullman laundry plants throughout the country, and represents an annual increase over present wage rates of approximately $125,000, union spokesmen declared.

Little Interest In Building Trades

Negroes May Lose Out In Construction Jobs

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16—(ANP)—Unless Negroes show more interest in the building and construction trades, they will eliminate themselves from the well paying jobs as brickayers, cement finishers, carpenters and the like. Already, unions are sensing the situation and they will not be annoyed with Negro memberships since fewer Negroes are acquiring these trades.

A survey made by an interesting union showed the average age of white carpenters to be between 25 and 35; Negroes from 35 to 45. The difference in ages indicates less interest among young Negroes in this important field.

Throughout the South, Negroes have more opportunities as bricklayers and carpenters. They do not have union trouble to hinder their progress. Many fine mechanics are found in the South where they have prospered and done highly creditable work.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

137 Agencies Work On Post War Employment

Colored Groups Not Interesting Selves in Problem

WASHINGTON—(A N P)— One hundred and thirty-seven agencies in the United States are working day and night to solve the problem of jobs after the war era to avert a catastrophe similar to the one which befell the United States shortly after World War I. During that lamentable period, not one organization attempted to solve the problems which were unseen.

The prime movers in this program are the manufacturers and business men themselves, who are doing this largely as a measure of precaution. Unless Negro organizations bestir themselves and take an active part in these plans, the Negro group as usual is going to be left out in the cold. Only one organization has taken upon itself to look into this affair and that is a woman's group. Other units are leaving the field severely alone, although there will be a lot of work to be done to integrate the Negro into the new order which is sure to follow the war.

Complicated and tangled, the Negro groups are not interesting themselves in this future problem, while the white groups are already attempting to find a solution for the difficult tasks of finding peacetime employment and conversion of war plants into peace time manufacturing establishments.

Eric Johnson, president of the United States Chamber of Commerce, says that private industry and business alone cannot supply jobs at high pay following the war and insists that the government will have to step in to help the situation and also insists the Government has a great responsibility in the matter.

Solution of the problem will not be easy, but it can be done, according to the 137 organizations who are working to that end, hoping that much will be accomplished toward seeing that men will have jobs on their return to peace time programs. Meanwhile, the Negro is not being considered as part of the program and will have to start working out his own destiny.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Youths Found Not Taking Advantage Of Opportunities

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—Unless Negroes show more interest in the building and contruction trades, they will eliminate themselves from these well paying jobs as bricklayers, cement finishers, carpenters, and the like. Already, unions are sensing the situation and they will not be annoyed with Negro memberships since fewer Negroes are acquiring these trades.

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DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

Dining Car Workers Win $250,000

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

From Union Pacifc In Deductions

800 Members Affected; Many Get Checks as High as $700 Each

CHICAGO —(A N P)— Checks amounting to $250,000 of monies deducted from the wages of dining car employes by a railroad company for their board and lodging are being mailed to members of Local 465 with headquarters in Omaha, Neb., this week. The huge sum was ordered returned to the workers in culmination of negotiations between union officials and representatives of the Union Pacific Railroad Company that were initiated back in 1939.

Some 800 members of the union are affected by the award, many receiving checks as high as $700, according to Richard J. Smith, secretary-treasurer of the Joint council of Dining Car Workers with which the local is affiliated. The agreement, he added, is the largest single amount ever won by a Negro labor union in the nation for illegally deducted monies.

DEDUCTS SINCE 1938

"The board and lodging deductions had been taken out of the workers salaries since 1938," he explained "Many other railroad companies are still taking thousands of dollars from dining car employes in violation of the spirit of the wages and hours law and the understanding that carriers are expected to furnish employes with board and lodging free of charges."

Local 465 sent its general chairman, Rufus Long, and its secretary and treasurer, Thomas Reed, to the conferences with the railroad that resulted in the agreement. They based their case upon a series of others won by the Joint Council before the National Railroad Adjustment board.

The Joint Council with headquarters in Chicago is made up of 15 unions of dining car employes throughout the country with machinery set up to handle these and other such cases. Recently it has been successful in winning several board and lodging cases before the NRAB, notably the Cheasapeake and Ohio, and Lehigh Valley railroad company cases.

52 RAILROADS INVOLVED

Smith said that the council and its affiliated locals hold contracts with 52 railroad, all of which are affiliated with the AFL. Several cases for return of board and lodging funds are now before the NRAB or in the preparatory stages for argument before the board he continued.

The Milwaukee division, Local 354, is one such case that will be taken to the railroad board again for adjustment, he stated, because the New York Central railroad has refused to pay an award won by the Joint Council before the board. Another case being prepared for the board is that against the Southern Pacific railroad. The matter was turned over to the council when negotiations between the Los Angeles local and railroad officials broke down.

Local 370's board and lodging grievance against the Pennsylvania railroad, said Smith, is in its final stages with a favorable decision expected. George E. Brown, general chairman of the local will accompany him before the board, he added.

Western Union Has Jobs Open to All

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

OCT 23 1943

Trainees in Telegraph Schools Have Proved Capable in Specialized Work; Co. Will Keep Workers after War

By RICHARD DIER

"The doors of Western Union are now open to colored men and women," George E. Oslin, publicity director of Western Union Telegraph Company, told me in an exclusive AFRO interview, recently.

"In fact," he continued, "we just can't get enough colored people to work here because the salaries are low. Even some of our pre-war employees have left for better paying jobs. Of course, you can't blame them, but if they considered that once they get a Western Union job they could keep it for life, then it might be different."

"It wasn't that we discriminated against colored people before the war and that we can't be too fussy now with the shortage of manpower. Western Union has a situation all its own. Jobs are seldom open to the general public, because they are handed down from father to son. Once a Western Union man, always a Western Union man.

"Would you believe that our average employee has been working here for about 20 years? People rarely leave a job here. It's the security they're interested in and the promise of a retirement fund that keeps them here.

Colored Less Qualified

"We long ago came to the conclusion that an employee becomes more of an asset to us the longer he stays on the job, no matter how old he becomes.

"Whatever jobs were open before the war we let go to the most qualified, and it was unfortunate that in some cases colored applicants had to be passed by for whites who had better qualifications.

"Since the war, we have been hiring them for almost every job, which includes elevator operators, clerks, messengers, counter attendants, telephone operators, and automatic telegraph operators. Before the war, only messenger, elevator operator, and counter attendant jobs were held by them . . . as far as I know.

In Every Type of Job

"We are now employing colored people in most every type of job throughout the country and we are satisfied with them. They are efficient and capable.

"Our company opened 131 schools all over the country to train people for the highly specialized jobs such as automatic telegraph operators, counter attendants, and telephone operators. Three months' training is usually given for these positions and if necessary this period is extended to make sure that the individual is well-prepared for practical work upon graduation.

"It's not like a commercial course where they give you a diploma and send you out on your own. When we train our people, we put them to work immediately in our offices and they must be able to measure up to this highly important work. It's our responsibility to see that they're fit for work. During this training period, they are paid a salary while learning.

Workers Capable

"What I'm happy to say is that the colored trainees have proved just as capable of learning their work as the whites. They have come out of training schools ready and anxious to do a good job . . . and they do it. Our work here has been classed as essential by the government and you can't stress too greatly how important our work is in the sending and receiving of messages all over the world, especially in time of war.

"At the present time, we are handling 85 per cent of the nation's business, and after we take over the Postal Telegraph Company in the merger you probably read about, we shall be doing 99 per cent of it. That's a big responsibility. That's also why we spend about $1,000 to teach employees the telegraph business, and also why we encourage them to stay on the job as long as they want. We just can't afford to lose them."

I asked Mr. Oslin about the post-war plans in reference to keeping colored employees on the payroll.

Priority of Servicemen

"After the war, we shall make every effort to retain them. We hate a labor turnover. The only obstacle is the priority that former employees who are now in the armed forces will have. After all, they are entitled to have their jobs back. It may be a problem, and then again it may not.

"It is possible that a great number of our boys may not return to civilian life right after the war is over for a year or so. You know what I mean . . . there may be policing of the world and other things which may make it impossible to disband our big army all

"In the meantime, we shall have older people who will retire on pensions and in the long run we'll be able to keep our colored help while putting the war vets back in their old jobs. I'm sure it will work out right."

When asked whether there were any labor problems at Western Union, the publicity director said:

120 Union Locals

"We have quite a headache here. Altogether there are about 120 individual union locals in our branches throughout the nation. That leaves our 57,500 employees in a continuous state of confusion, and the management in a quandary.

"In New York, we have a CIO local and most of the out-of-town branches are represented by AFL units. We've been after the War Labor Board to run a general election for all the branches and decide once and for all which shall be the representative union, CIO or AFL. All our efforts are without success. The War Labor Board refuses to take any action.

"The management would be satisfied to deal with one central union and negotiate a contract that would cover all of the employees. Instead, we have 120 locals to deal with, each one representing a different type or class of worker and each individual contract has to be negotiated at different times during the year.

Worse off Now

"There used to be an independent union that was outlawed by National Labor Relations Board. That union was nation-wide and represented all the employees. However, it was replaced by the CIO and AFL and now we are worse off than ever.

Personnel Manager Speaks

A. L. Hayes, the personnel manager of the traffic unit at Western Union, told me that the company has no discriminatory policies in the hiring of employees. He pointed with pride to an excerpt from one of Wendell Willkie's speeches, which contained the quotations about no 4,927 employee-blood donors, and of 6,590 employees who are in the armed forces.

In the lobby of the Western Union building are posters which tell of a Red Cross Unit; of a certificate of honor awarded to *people and was happy to have them working for the company. The only difficulty was the low salaries, he explained, which keep people from taking these jobs at $20 or $25 a week.*

"We have any difficulty in breaking in colored employees to work with whites at jobs that they never held before? I asked.

"Yes," he replied. "Management is perfectly willing to place colored employees at any type of job, but sometimes this is resented by whites. Consequently, we have to be very careful and cautious in placing them in order to prevent race trouble and labor disruption.

"We have to choose the right spots and find the right people with whom they can work harmoniously. This is done slowly and gradually. Here, incidentally, is a case where the employer is willing to show the way and labor, ever, this is overcoming this handicap and have been successful in most cases."

"As this is a vital try, a person must the strictest character and his character

Asked whether any colored employee had complained about discrimination, Mr. Oslin replied:

No Discrimination

"As a result of this investigation, a colored applicant is sometimes turned down, but so are many whites. We have no discri- *was a Texan, he likes colored creed, He also though he*

I have come away from Western Union with two impressions.

Not too Kind

One is: Will this great organization allow its colored employees to retain their jobs permanently and pass them on to their children, in the same way that the whites have been doing?

Certainly, Western Union has not been too kind to the colored people in its 92 years of existence; and certainly, the present state of confusion that exists among the 100 and some odd individual union units does not make for the security and job tenure of the new colored workers.

Second: The publicity director's statement about being careful and cautious in placing colored employees in the same department with whites to avoid race trouble only bears out the contention that white people have to be educated just as much as the colored to learn how to work and live together harmoniously. Education goes both ways.

"Lumber Jills"

That the exigencies of war have caused thousands of women to undertake jobs which, only a few years ago, were considered suitable only for male workers has become a commonplace fact. Nevertheless there are some types of work which, in the general public mind, remain unfitted for women. That the general public is, as frequently [illegible] steadily being shown.

Recently the Southern Pine War Committee made a survey of women workers in the southern lumber industry. They contacted 34 lumber companies in seven states. They discovered that, in these plants alone, 797 women are now employed. Of these, 441 are white and 356 colored women.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Among the jobs white women are performing in the mills are sawfiler, blacksmith helper, logger, operator of the company's water pumping plant, and many more. Colored women are feeding planing machines, moulders and edgers, operating cutoff and ripsaws, operating box stitching machines, feeding veneer dryers, racking lumber, stacking lumber for dry kilns, loading lumber into cars, etc. One is helping to fire the mill's power plant boilers.

What is more, practically all the women like their jobs, though they say they will be quite willing to return them to them men folks when the war is done.

There'll be a new saga of the timberlands soon, an epic of "Pauline Bunyan."

—WORK—SAVE—BUY BONDS!—

Anxious distillers would like to revert to the manufacture of whisky, though a second and frivolous school of thought is for using the grain for food and other luxuries of life.

Hold-Your-Job Effort Hits D. C.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON-(ANP)-The nation's capital, where thousands of Negro women war workers have come from all over the country will be the scene of a community-wide drive as part of the National Hold Your Job committee's campaign for the week of Sept 12-18 as the employment division of the National Council of Negro Women opens a series of wartime employment clinics at the Hearthstone War Workers club. The opening meeting will be held at the Lincoln Temple Congregational church, Sunday. The program will be introduced by Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, president of the council. Mrs. Juanita Welching Brown, executive secretary of the Hold Your Job committe and of the council, Mrs Venice Spraggs chairman of the council's employment division, and Miss Marguerite Johnson, chairman of the D C campaign committee.

Sopkesman for the committee and the council indicate that the record made by Negro women war wrokrs in Washington, will undoubtedly have far- reaching influence over the post-war employment picture for Negroes. Here in the lime-light of international publicity, the United States government has taken on more Negro women workers during the last two years than have ever before been employed in federal government.

Efficiency, industry, attendance, attitudes, behavior and appearance will be the major themes of the clinic series, which will be conducted every morning from 8:30 to 11 at the Heartstone club during the first week of the campaign. A special program for night workers will be featured from 1 to 3 o'clock Friday afternoon.

Registration will continue throughout the week's session in preparation for the long-time program which is planned to operate through clinics located in various sections of the city.

According to the plans of the local committee, skilled technicians are being recruited to conduct these clincs in order that the Negro women wrokers, many of whom have entered industrial plants and government work for the first time, may have competent advice in their efforts to make suitable adjustment on the job and in the community. The program also includes activities directed to employing agencies, foremen and supervisors, with a view to developing mutual understanding and sound working conditions.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Plan New System To Designate Race

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—Although a bitter fight was held to eliminate the racial identity of persons civil applications, the civil service commission is contemplating installation of a punch card system in the main office which will not only show here but sex and other data relating to the 3,000,000 persons now in Uncle Sam's employ.

This new development is supposed to be a time saver and will eliminate certain phases of personnel work being carried on in individual agencies. At the same time, it will enable the commission to tell offhand how man Negroes are employed by the government: their ages, their sex whether male or female and other information which is said to be greatly needed for personnel management.

Never before has the commission separated workers into racial categories and it has always boasted that it could not tell whether a worker was a Negro or not unless a specific inquiry was made of individual cases. The new system of record keeping will identify every worker racially.

Guardian
Boston, Mass.

LABOR PIONEERS

The absentee rate of white employes is almost four times as high as that of colored employes, according to a check on absenteeism at the Ford Instrument Company, a subsidiary of the Sperry Company. The rate for all is 4.27, and the rate for colored is 1.10. The overall rate for males is 3.54 but for colored males is 1.0. The overall rate for females is 5.89 but for colored females is 1.45.

Any avoidable absence is to be condemned because of the pressing demand for the utmost production to speed victory but as contrast with more favored workers the record of "faithfulness on the job" by the colored employees is highly gratifying. They have set an example of dependability which should help them hold their jobs when the war is over and also help to keep the doors open for other applicants for the same kind of work. The Ford Instrument Company makes instruments of precision such as bomb sights and automatic pilots for ships and aircraft. At first, the company balked at hiring colored workers on the supposition that colored workers could not do precision work [illegible] skepticism — if it were only skepticism—has been overcome by the records. The war has given colored workers an opportunity to be labor pioneers. To surmount obstacles and to prove their worth are obligations both to employers and to other members of the colored group.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

Wage Earning Of Negroes on Increase

Washington, D.C. Tribune

Negro construction workers on 656 war public works projects throughout the country have earned nearly $4,000,000 in wages since the beginning of the program, according to a report submitted this week to Maj. Gen. Philip B. Fleming, Administrator of the Federal Works Agency, by W. T. Trent, Jr., Racial Relations Office.

Wages paid to Negroes represented 19 per cent of the total payroll on these projects. Of this amount, more than $500,000 went to skilled mechanics.

More than one-third of the total payrolls on projects in the District of Columbia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi was earned by Negro labor. In South Carolina, Negro workers earned 24 per cent of the skilled payroll; in Kentucky and North Carolina, 14 per cent, and in Mississippi 12 per cent.

Under contractual provisions war public works contractors are required to employ Negroes in proportion to their availability in the communities in which the project is located. Monthly reports on racial employment are submitted to the Federal Works Agency. If a contractor has approximated the stipulated percentages it is accepted as prima facie evidence that he has not discriminated against Negro workers.

Projects these men are helping to build in crowded war areas include such community facilities as hospitals, schools, recreation centers for men in the armed services, health centers, sewer lines, and water systems. They help to meet the needs created by the impact of workers and soldiers on communities. Hundreds of such facilities are being provided for Negro war workers and Negro soldiers throughout the country. In one community—a recreation center is built for Negro soldiers—in another additional hospital beds, health centers and schools are provided for the health and educational needs of Negro workers and their families. In strategic areas detention homes for the treatment of the venereally-infected men and women are provided by Lanham Act funds under the Federal Works Agency.

An addition of 66 beds to the Norfolk Community Hospital, a Negro hospital; a hospital for Negroes in Newport News; additional beds for Negro patients in general hospitals in Portsmouth, Norfolk and Hampton; Health clinic and recreation center at Huntsville; an addition to Negro hospital and equipment for another Negro hospital; recreation center for Negro soldiers (recently enlarged); venereal disease detention home (near Savannah).

Such facilities are being duplicated throughout the country wherever community needs have developed as a result of the war effort.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

HISTORIC EDICT SMASHES DIXIE DIFFERENTIAL

JUN 12 1943

Race Tag On Workers Hit In Decision Written By Southerner

(Text of Decision on Page 4)

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON.—A epoch-making decision by the War Labor board this week threatened to crack completely the Jim Crow wage differential system of the South that dates back to Emancipation Day.

Quietly and solemnly, the historic WLB order was issued on Monday, ruling that wage rates based solely on race and color were illegal.

The decision was unanimous and significantly was written by a Southern liberal, Dr. Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina.

An Encouraging Sign

Amsterdam News New York, N.Y.

JUL 10 1943

By ordering the Southport Petroleum Company of Texas City, Tex., to equalize wages paid to Negro workers for performing the same work as white workers, last week the War Labor Board abolished an evil that has long helped to prevent Negroes in the South from attaining their rightful economic equality. The board's ruling will go down in the nation's economic history as a landmark of justice.

Southern whites have many devious ways of "keeping the nigger down," as they put it. They Jim Crow him in public places. They deny him his civic and political rights as an American citizen. They bar him from many different kinds of jobs. But one of the most unfair things southern whites perpetrate against colored persons is to pay Negro workers less money than white ones for the same work. They have always maintained a color wage differential.

Although the white workers in the South may not be aware of it, the War Labor Board's ruling has also greatly helped them to achieve a higher wage level, therefore a higher standard of living, than they have ever enjoyed. For in the future there will be no lower wage paid to Negroes to depress the somewhat higher wage paid to white workers.

The Souths' color wage differential has always resulted in the boss getting something for nothing. Let us hope that what the boss chiseled through wage differentials will now go to the workers. It is high time. WLB must be congratulated for starting the ball rolling in the right direction.

The far-reaching ruling directed the Southport Petroleum Company of Texas City, Tex., to grant wage increases to its Negro employees which would "place them on a basis of economic parity with the white workers in the same classification."

Wipes Out Differential

Under the terms of the order, in similar test cases were made in all industries, all pay differentials between white and Negro workers performing equal work would be wiped out.

JUN 12 1943

It was not clear whether the ruling would cover the long battle of Southern Negro teachers to win pay parity with white educators.

Because of the importance of the decision, Dean Wayne L. Morse, public member, who did not participate on this case, asked special permission to concur in Dr. Graham's opinion.

Among the terms of the decision were:

1. "The classification 'colored laborer' and 'white laborer' shall be abolished."

JUN 12 1943

2. All workers shall receive the same rates of pay in the same classification regardless of color.

3. Negro workers were granted wage increases up to the scale given white workers.

JUN 12 1943

The case was brought before the board by the CIO Oil Workers International Union Local 499. Approving the decision were the following WLB members, including AFL and CIO representatives: George W. Taylor, Van A. Bittner, Robert J. Watt, George K. Batt and Almon E. Roth.

JUN 12 1943

In writing the ruling Dr. Graham went into the history of Negro allegiance to American democracy and said the decision was in line with the President's executive order 8802 and the aims of the United Nations in the war.

DISCLOSE 13.7% OF ARMY CIVIL FORCE IS NEGRO

Chicago, Ill. Defender

Lt. Gen. Somervell Tells House Committee Status Of Race Employes

JUN 26 1943

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) —The army service forces of the War Department, "the largest single employer of civilian workers in the nation, either within or without war industry," is giving Negroes a break in employment.

The fact, with figures, was disclosed last Tuesday when Lieut. General Brehon Somervell, commanding general for the ASF, testified before the Ramspeck committee investigating civil service. To sum up, as General Somervell told the committee, the army service forces "feeds, fuels, clothes, houses and equips the army."

"It is unnecessary to state before this committee, familiar as it is with our employment conditions in Washington and at some of the installations it has visited," he declared before the committee, "that the Army Service Forces has made real use of minority groups and handicapped workers in its war program. Strict adherence has been followed to the policy laid down by the Secretary of War that there shall be no discrimination whatsoever with respect to race, sex, color, religion, creed, national origin, or political affiliation, except as required by law."

JUN 26 1943

He went on to point out that Negroes make up 13.7 per cent of the total civilian personnel of the ASF. The total employment roll is 1,026,000 persons. Among the Washington personnel, he said, 22.1 per cent are Negroes. There are in the field 13.4 per cent Negroes.

A chart has been prepared in the division showing the distribution of Negroes among the various departments of the branch.

Savannah, Ga., News
September 29, 1943

MORE WORK FOR NEGROES SOUGHT

"Allottment Check" Idleness Is Scored

ATLANTA, Sept. 28 (AP).—W. Allen Murphy, negro waiter and chairman of the Atlanta service group war bond committee, asked today for a greater share in the war effort for negroes.

He said in an interview that in Atlanta, for example, there are approximately 100,000 negroes of whom a total of about 35,000 are employed. Of these, he estimated between 6,000 and 7,000 are engaged in various forms of war work.

Murphy added that "a good many others are trained to do war work but are unable to get placed in jobs. Negroes want to do more than they really are given an opportunity to do."

He said that "a number of negroes are not working anywhere, and are not even skilled. Because they're getting a small government allotment check from someone in the armed services they're not trying to do any other work. They're the real problem.

Many in this category, he said, are not working because when they did work they were paid five or six dollars a week, and now with their allotment check their view is "what's the use of working."

"The domestic field," he said, "offers a large area of fine opportunities where, vast numbers of negro people could serve, and likewise offers the white employer a fine opportunity to express appreciation for services rendered in adequate salaries."

Murphy said that "where an adequate salary is being paid negroes should not 'retire' from work because they are receiving a government allotment check."

He added that when negro domestic servants stop working because of an allotment check "it is a hindrance to the war effort and will be a hindrance to them after the war is over."

It is pointed out that while the salaries between Negroes and whites have not yet been equalized, the upward adjustment covered by the agreement does make a substantial reduction in the differential. The document also carries a stand-by clause which will permit the Negro employes to receive a further increase in line with present efforts of the operating brotherhoods to win general salary increases.

Atlanta, Georgia
Daily World

Arkansas Grants $100,000 Raise

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—Wage increases and contributing factors will give 225 firemen, brakemen and yard men on the Louisiana and Arkansas Railroad roughly $100,000 as a result of the agreement signed Friday afternoon between the carrier and the Association of Colored Railway Train-

Sign Railway Wage Increase Agreement

Louisiana And

men and Locomotive Firemen. The announcement was made by Joseph C. Waddy, counsel for the union.

The agreement, the result of negotiations which had been under way for more than a year, was made with the assistance of the National Railway Mediation board, and will give the men about a 15 per cent increase for the present time, they will receive a half for overtime. Whites all along have enjoyed this condition. The increases are retroactive to June 1, 1943.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

Star of Zion
Charlotte, N. C.

Hold Your Job Campaign

Joseph D. Bill, one of the most intelligent and pungent columnists of the nation, writes very interestingly in a recent issue of the Pittsburgh Courier on "Hold Your Job." He calls attention to the fact that the National Hold-Your-Job committee has set apart the week of September 12-18 as the time for emphasis upon the means and methods of holding on to the job you have and making yourself indispensible to the employer, with a view to averting the probability of dismissal when and if the period of retrenchment begins.

Mr. Bibb very pertinently discusses the fact that this is no sham battle, but a real honest-to-goodness war to prove that a worker of the Negro group can be just as efficient in production and cooperative in employment with others as anyone else can be. He points out that the enemy has sent out a whole catalogue of reasons why Negro workers are not as acceptable as white laborers, all of which Negroes can disprove, but it will require all the ingenuity, persistence and sustained effort the latter can muster. There are a great many employers of Negro labor who know full well that Negroes, man for man, are just as dependable as whites, but these employers are largely in the South, where the Negro is employed chiefly in the less skilled trades. In the highly skilled industries, the Negro is still on trial, and hundreds of thousands of Negroes who are brand new in certain industries are face to face with the task of proving they can stick and work without laying off every pay day; and that they will safe-guard a high standard of productivity.

Most of the things which our enemies charge against us are due in great measure to the low economic status, which we have been forced to live in during the past. Negroes, some of them at least, may have a peculiar body odor, (Africans say white folks have it) but that can be overcome completely when they have access to modern facilities and the means to keep tidy. Carelessness in the matter of health and cleanliness is largely a matter of education and means. Syphilis is traceable to the same general background and is just as rare among Negroes of good habits. Absenteesim can be overcome and is being overcome, while there is absolutely no truth in the charge that Negroes are less intelligent than whites; on the contrary Negroes who have had the same educational opportunities usually surpass whites of the same class.

Negroes must stop buying so much on credit, pay cash, or do without and there will be less instances of garnishment. Negroes should know as well as any others how to follow "exacting industrial discipline," if not, they must learn as others have had to learn. Negroes can and will be just as reliable and can co-operate with white workers. We must learn how to take insults and injustice and still prove our superiority in good manners and cooperation. It is up to us to reduce friction and to keep trouble down to the irreducible minimum, and see that there is also the minimum of "undesirable social intercourse."

Because of economic insecurity, it is absolutely indispensible that we hold on to the jobs we have, for these not only stand between us and "starvation," as it were, but they determine our respectability and in short our whole existence.

Preachers of the gospel in every pulpit would do well to prepare a series of sermons on "decent and honorable behavior on the job," for whoever does not know how to give an honest day's work for an honest day's pay and to get along with his fellows is not only not likely to "walk the golden streets," but is more likely to walk the earthly streets, looking for a job which he cannot hold, if found, unless he has the sense to be a practical Christian.

DENIES TELLING DOMESTICS TO STAY ON JOB

Kansas City, Kan.
The Plaindealer

Atlanta, Oct. 8. (ANP)—The victim of wholesale censure on the part of Negro leaders here, W. Allen Murphy, Piedmont Driving club waiter, whose admonition to domestics "not to desert the kitchen for higher paying war jobs," was given wide publicity through the southern white press last week Wednesday did a complete about face and denied that he had made such a statement.

"What I was attempting to say was that those people who because of lack of education or mechanical aptitudes would never do industrial work, should stay on their domestic jobs. I was addressing my advice particularly to those folk who have been doing domestic work, and since they are now drawing government allotment checks from relatives in the armed services, have retired from work. I was merely urging these people to stay on their jobs," Murphy, noticeably agitated, explained.

"I further said that those people should take their money drawn under the allotments and add $10 each week to their accumulated savings in war bonds and stamps," the waiter, whom white newspapers had styled a "Negro leader," added as an afterthought.

The story of Murphy's advice to domestics to ignore the siren call of higher-paying war jobs resulted in a wave of indignation among Negroes while at the same time it won instant approval of servantless southern white people.

Murphy, asked how he was able to get away from his Piedmont Driving club job long enough to travel about the state warning Negro domestics to stay "in the kitchen," disclosed that he was on "leave of absence." Just where he is getting funds to make his tour was not made clear, although it is known that he has been working with Bishop W. Y. Bell of the CME church as a public relations counsel.

$100,000 Railroaders By Ruling

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

WASHINGTON, D. C., (ANP)—Wage increases totalling $100,000 will go to 225 firemen, brakemen and yard men on the Louisiana and Arkansas Railroad, as a result of the agreement signed between the carrier and the Association of Colored Railway Trainmen and Locomotive Firemen.

The announcement was made by Joseph C. [illegible]ddy, counsel [illegible] the [illegible]

The [illegible] the result of more than a year of negotiation which had the assistance of the National Railway Mediation Board, will give the men about a 13 per cent increase over present wages, and for the first time, they will receive time and a half for overtime. The increases are retroactive to June 1.

The document also carries a stand-by clause to permit further increase in line with [illegible] efforts of the operating [illegible]otherhoods to win general salary increases.

Denies Telling Help To Desert Kitchen

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

ATLANTA (ANP)—The victim of wholesale censure on the part of Negro leaders here, W. Allen Murphy, Piedmont Driving club waiter, whose admonition to domestics "not to desert the kitchen for higher paying war jobs," was given wide publicity through the southern white press last week, Wednesday did a complete about face and denied that he had made such a statement.

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WMC Backs "Hold Your Job Week"

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Official Says Trainng And Experience Needed

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—The War Manpower commission, through its women's advisory committee, endorsed the "Hold Your Job Week" campaign, Sept. 12 to 18, during a press conference which the war agency held last Thursday.

Discussing the need for additional womanpower and educational drive to be undertaken to [illegible] Miss Margaret Hickey, chairman of the advisory committee, declared that it is just as important that women hold onto the jobs they now have as it is for others to join the ranks.

"It is keeping on the job that counts," he said. "We need the training and experience that the workers are gaining. Further, replacements are becoming more difficult. The woman on a war job does not realize how serious her job is, and it is her lost day or dropping out of the line that impairs production."

Manpower officials disclosed that an educational campaign is being undertaken this month to explain to women all over that they have got to get into "war useful" jobs. Women in [illegible] are the only reserve left for meeting production schedules, it was stated. Already youth, the handicapped and the reservoir of older workers have been thoroughly tapped.

WMC pointed out that "war useful" jobs do not necessarily mean those in defense plants only, but those jobs which must be filled in order to meet civilian needs. In many instances, it was said, the availability of women for these jobs is making possible the release of men for other types of work.

Estimate released is that one million women will have to be added to the labor market by the end of the year. Already over six million more women are employed today than in July, 1940.

35g-1943

General

National Council Of Negro Women Plans 'Hold Your Job' Week Sept. 12-18

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9—"Hold Your Job" week will be officially opened Sunday, September 12, at 10:30 a.m., over the Wings Over Jordan program, by Thomas A. Webster of Chicago. Mr. Webster, formerly of the Urban League, has been studying at the University of Chicago. A local committee of the Employment Department of the National Council of Negro Women has been set up to plan for a Washington Wartime clinic to be held during the all important week.

The committee, a live wire group of energetic women, is busy now with plans for the clinic. Miss Marguerite Johnson of Freedmen's hospital, is the chairman; other members are, Mrs. Bertha Anderson, Zeta Phi Beta sorority, chairman of planning committee; Miss Corrine Robinson, member of the national committee; Mrs. Iller Derricotte, chairman of publicity committee; Miss Woods, Pittsburgh Courier; Hearthstone War Workers' club; Mrs. Lelia Richmond, national committee; Mrs. Dorothy Porter, Howard university library; Mrs. Pearl Cox, Washington Tribune; Mrs. Marion Bluitt, Phi Delpa Kappa sorority, secretary of the local committee; Miss Edna Bethea, chairman of recruiting committee; Mrs. Dowling of Lucy Slowe Hall. Miss Johnson is also chairman of the finance committee.

CLINIC TO DEAL WITH CHARM

The Wartime Clinic for employees will be held at the Hearthstone War Workers' club, 1703 11th street, N. W., Washington, D. C. The clinics will deal with charm, personality, health and hygiene, nutrition, budget, housing, efficiency and morale, unions, etc. In other words, it will teach the worker how to become a better worker through improving her personal and work habits. Experts on the various subjects will be presented to workers.

A pamphlet, Wake-up! Your Job is in Danger, is off the press and is available to groups and individuals interested in keeping their jobs after the emergency. Especially designed for women workers, this pamphlet tells you how to get a better job, a better opportuity for your children, a better opportunity for Negro workers, a better home, a good bank account, security in old age, and how to afford the health needs for you and your family thereby making a better community and a better world.

137 Agencies Work On Post-War Employment

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9—(ANP)—One hundred and thirty-seven agencies in the United States are working day and night to solve the problem of jobs after the war era to avert a catastrophe similar to the one which befell the United States shortly after World War I. During that lamentable period, not one organization attempted to solve the problems which were unseen.

The prime movers in this program are the manufacturers and business men themselves, who are doing this largely as a measure of precaution. Unless Negro organizations bestir themselves and take an active part in these plans, the Negro group as usual is going to be left out in the cold. Only one organization has taken upon itself to look into this affair and that is a woman's group. Other units are leaving the field severely alone, although there will be a lot of work to be done to integrate the Negro into the new order which is sure to follow the war.

Complacent and assured, the Negro groups are not interesting themselves in this future problem, while the white groups are already attempting to find a solution for the difficult tasks of finding peacetime employment and conversions of war plants into peace time manufacturing establishments.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

It Should Not Be Necessary

Under an economic system of free enterprise in which its citizens are made the sole trustees of the fruits of their labor, campaigns enjoining workers to hold onto their jobs should not be necessary. And least of all should Negro workers be urged to do so. For in a very real sense, the Negro worker is on trial in the vast American labor movement. His place in industry is insecure and his future is uncertain. He, therefore, should seize every opportunity to find new frontiers in industry and to prove his value and worth as an indispensable cog in its wheel.

Nevertheless, a glance at the list of complaints most commonly expressed against them by their employers, indicate the intensity and gravity of the problems which face them. They, many of them, do not show the proper interest and concern in their job. Some few have been accused of laying off to observe "Blue Monday," in positions of trust which require regularity in attendance as well as skill in performance. And not a few of them have made the mistake of seeking "advances" from their employers until payday, which is not only a nuissance, but requires extra bookkeeping.

Negro workers, however, might just as well learn now that the old days of patrimony employer and employee are over. A man must be able to organize his personal affairs in such a way that he will neither need to borrow on his labors in advance, nor to go about expecting employers to give them work merely because they are hungry and need help. Today, they are enjoying splendid work opportunities. Many employers are opening their doors to Negro workers, who have never before experimented with Negro help. Many Negroes are making themselves indispensable and likely to be retained after the duration. Others, men and women, have proven so boisterous, vulgar and inefficient, that many employers are saying "never again" will I consent to use Negro workers. Now is the time to make good. After the duration it will be too late.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Negroes And Whites Alike Have Gained

OCT 30 1943

Wage-Hour Administrator Points Out Many Elements Of Progress Under New Law

Five years ago, on October 24, 1938, the Wage and Hour Law went into effect, and under it millions of the country's lowest paid workers, Negro and white, are now protected.

"The Act is a milestone in setting labor standards by Federal law without discrimination as to race, sex, nationality, or the part of the country in which the worker is living," L. Metcalfe Walling, Administrator of the Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Division of the Department of Labor said in reviewing the great gains made by workers under the Act. "Contrary to predictions made at the time of the Act's passage, industry in all sections of the country, the South as well as the North, has found it possible to function on such a basis.

"The Fair Labor Standards Act applies to 21,000,000 workers engaged in interstate commerce or in the production of goods for such commerce. At the time the Act went into effect, in some plants, men and women were working for wages as low as 10 to 15 cents an hour and children were often employed for still less. Long hours were being worked, and there were many other abuses. This was true not only in the South, although wage scales were generally lower there, but also in many northern communities.

"Since that time the minimum wage has been raised to 40 cents an hour for all but a few industries under the Act, and industry committee machinery is under way to include the others. The 40-hour straight-time work-week has been made the standard, and beyond those hours, with certain exemptions granted by the Act, overtime must be paid at not less than time and one-half the regular rate of pay. Oppressive child labor has been prohibited.

Pay Up Back Wages

"Under the Act, through governmen action, $55,000,000 in back wages due has been recovered for employes and several times that amount, so it is estimated, has been obtained through private action by the workers and their representatives. In many of these restitution cases, Negro workers were the beneficiaries.

"The law is administered by the Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Divisions of the U. S. Department of Labor, with national offices at 165 West 46th Street, New York 19, N. Y. Field offices are in the principal cities, and in these, as in the national office, a staff is ready at all times to advise employers and employes on all questions arising under the law.

"In the words of President Roosevelt, 'the government now has some control over minimum wages, maximum hours, the abuse of child labor, and the exploitation of unorganized labor.' And in the measure that it has given protection to the lowest paid, it has added to the security of all workers of both races."

'Hold Your Job' Program Hit High Mark Over Nation

Bystander

Washington—The "Hold Your Job" Program hit a high mark September 12-18 all over America, with radio programs, sermons, mass meetings, clinics, theater trailers, and newspaper campaigns going into barbershops, poolrooms, beauty shops, taverns, etc. Reports coming into the National Committee from all over the country show that the Negro public is anxious to help do something to secure its place in post-war employment.

Although "Hold Your Job" Week is over, the National Committee strongly urges national and local organizations, churches, and individuals to continue "Hold Your Job" programs for the duration. The Committee feels that this type of program is another front on which the Negro must fight. In addition to getting new and better jobs, and in addition to helpng solve the problems of discrimination and segregation, there is the responsibility devolved upon the workers to keep the gains made, as a result of these efforts, by seeing to it that their behavior and work habits are good.

The Committee is definitely sure that "Hold Your Job" Week served a purpose in helping to stimulate local and national participation by churches, and organizations to include such a program on their calendar where it did not exist; and to awaken the entire Negro population to its responsibility as a participating group in the total war effort, to become conscious of the necessity for contributing honestly, efficiently and productively.

Reports coming into the national office show that local communities accepted the challenge of the National Committee and began in earnest to make the work-record of the Negro, now and in the post-war period, one comparable with that of other groups.

All participants in "Hold Your Job" Week are requested to send in clippings, programs, pictures, placards, pamphlets, etc., of your activities of the week, to the National "Hold Your Job" Committee, 1812 Ninth street N. W., Washington 1, D. C.

Globe and Independen
Nashville, Tenn.

MANY COLORED WORKERS FAILING TO MAKE GOOD ON JOBS, ANP FINDS

Staff Reporter Gives Results of 3-Year Survey of Plants; Prejudice of Whites Based on Individual Shortcomings In Many Instances, Taylor Finds.

By Leon H. Taylor

Dayton, O., Nov. 18 (ANP)—All of us have heard the many bitter stories of Negro workers denied jobs at their skills or denied any kind of emloyment in most of our large industrial plants throughout the country. All of us have been at times discouraged and of course deeply resentful of discriminatory practices by both white industrial leaders and some union organizations.

After a three year study of the problem during which I actually worked at several types of occupations in several kinds of iudustrial plants, I have obtained some very definite information pro and con and drawn some, I hope, useful conclusions. Perhaps at the outset it will be well to deal with mistakes in the Negro labor situation:

Of 1.000 Negroes discharged summarily from their jobs:

314 dismissed for laziness, refusal to work out a given period.

234 dismissed for drunkenness, or coming to work intoxicated.

149 dismissed for using obscene language.

185 dimsissed for being abusive to fellow-workers.

194 dismissed for leaving work without notice.

62 dimsissed for continued boisterousness after warning.

82 dismissed for theft.

Of 500 white workers interviewed as to their willingness to work with Negroes in any capacity:

46 voiced strong sentiments in favor of all Negroes.

181 expressed willingness to work.

60 flatly stated they would not tolerate Negroes in the skills.

20 agreed to work anywhere with Negro janitors.

193 qualified their willingness with the privilege of naming Negro workers with whom they would labor.

This last offers some significant interpretations. First, it reflects blame upon Negroes themselves collectively as the prime source of friction. Second, it indicates there is a differentiation by white workers of worthwhile Negroes. Third, it takes discrimination out of the class of plain prejudice and places it as the rightful ally of careful, personal, human reactions. Fourth, it impresses one as the fundamental and focal reason for the necessity of a Negro personnel officer in all employment offices, to provide industry with that acceptable type of Negro worker capable, by virtue of personal attributes of fitting into the continuity of production lines.

This same group of 500 white workers with whom I talked individually revealed a classication of grievances against Negro workers:

39 per cent unhesitatingly names boisterousness as the prime objection.

17 per cent exclusively designated uncleanness.

9 per cent named both boisterousness and uncleanness together. Thus 325 out of 500 white workers laid the prohibitions against only two faults.

77 per cent gave shiftlessness and laziness.

8 per cent covered many causes under the generalization, incompatibility.

5 per cent linked drunkenness with injurious layoffs.

5 per cent listed arrogance resulting from important jobs.

4 per cent claimed personal contact distasteful to them.

2 per cent relied solely upon the prohibitions of social equality.

But it was from 100 foremen and superintendents that the greatest surprise came to light. They revealed the following reactions:

46 without qualification expressed themselves heartily in favor of using Negro workers in any job—if there was not danger of white workers walking out. They gave as their reason the ability and steadiness of tried Negroes under them, and their productive capacity.

23 preferred all-Negro crews, picked with care, instead of mixed workers, provided they were available in the skills.

19 wished separate departments handling certain skilled productivity.

10 wanted no Negroes at all except menials.

2 would allow Negro apprentice-helpers without a guarantee of further promotion.

9 executives heading factories or approved shops gave up the following stands:

3 wished to equip entire sections with all-Negro workers, with the statement, "It would be interesting to see the competition developing between them (white and Negro sections of the same plant), and we owners would really get something done.

4 expressed a desire to elevate responsbile Negroes already in their employ; fear of strikes held them back.

One politely refused to commit himself, but evasively prophesied the universal mingling of workers would occur.

One refused point-blank to consider the hiring of Negroes.

MY OWN CONCLUSIONS

1. Attitudes and traits have contributed immeasurably to the plight of the average Negro worker in the lower-wage brackets.

2. That if the Negro worker would put a muffler on his mouth, take the chip off his shoulder, assume a deeper sense of responsibility for the work at hand, and expect to barter a fair amount of labor in exchange for his pay-check, his services would be more in demand in all lines of production.

3. One-fifth of all Negro workers in this bracket are incapable of sustained effort at their given tasks, thus causing the remaining four-fifths to receive the same label in the eyes of the average white worker, who makes no distinction among Negroes.

4. Great numbers of Negro workers are unable to bear promotions with a mental equanimity precluding presumptions of false importance.

5. The average worker enters upon every job calling two strikes upon himself, in that he scouts the eventuality of his own promotion and does nothing to render himself worthy of same.

6. Contrary to our conception, the white worker is sympathetic and friendly to Negro workers of ability.

7. The majority of executives are more than anxious to fit in competent Negro workers who prove free from obnoxious characteristics.

8. The discovery of real ability and proficiency in a Negro worker means usually to an executive, "not where he came but how far can he go."

9. In plants where a firm stand is taken from the start by the head of an organization, little trouble is experienced from newcomers, and they take their places beside Negro workers without comment.

10. The "Uncle-Tom" or "monkey-shine" type Negro worker in any plant is the great handicap to the progress of his fellow-men.

11. The system of seniority as employed by both labor unions in big plants is a stumbling-block to masses of Negro workers, since a comedy-type Negro worker may be held above efficient workers below who may not be advanced over him, by virtue of his seniority.

12. The average worker fails to keep pace with the times, and is unwilling to accept modern innovation. He loses stride, and is relegated to the rear.

13. Negro teachers everywhere can do a yeoman's job instilling into youth the dignity of honest labor, and the miportance of doing its job well rather than in a haphazard fashion.

14. The importance of work must be epitomized, instead of a capitulation to frivolity and a deification of false sophistication.

15. My last conclusion pertaining to the general field of Negro workers, skilled, semi-skilled, and unskilled, is, "The fault, Dear Brutus, is not in our stars, but in ourselves that we are underlings."

35g-1943

GENERAL

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
AUG 28 1943

Worthy of His Hire



Age
New York, N. Y.
SEP 4 - 1943

"NEGRO WORKERS EARN FOUR MILLION DOLLARS, AS FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY BUILDS SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS, HEALTH CENTERS, AND OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES IN WAR PRODUCTION AREAS."
—NEWS ITEM



"THE WORK THAT MAKES DEMOCRACY WORK!"

IF NEGROES DON'T WANT TO END UP IN THE POORHOUSE—when the war is over—THEY HAD BETTER STOP HANGING ON TO THESE TWO-BY-FOUR JOBS which can be had for a dime-a-dozen and still go begging to be taken. NEGROES MUST GO IN FOR TRAINING FOR THE JOBS THAT REALLY KEEP AMERICA GOING—AND DO IT IN A BIG WAY. Else, when the shooting is over, the drums silent, the flags furled, and the bugles sounding TAPS, the Negro worker will be out in the cold, right behind the eight-ball.



Mr. Weston

Why This Is So

This is a nation which moves on wheels. If you can't handle a wheel, whether on farm or in factory, a hand-to-mouth existence will keep you near the bread-line nine cases out of ten. When the going gets rough—with jobs scarce, wages cut, prices riding balloons, taxes pinned on everything — unskilled workers don't stand a ghost of a chance.

WELL, THE GOING WILL GET ROUGH when 11 million of the boys and girls in khaki, blue and green come marching back from camps to factories and farms. If the Negro worker can't make a bid for a job because he can do something with a tool — and do it well — IT IS GOING TO BE TAPS FOR HIM.

Now, Negroes are getting jobs. Getting them on streets and in stores where they hardly passed in the night before the war. But what kind of jobs are they? For the most part, Negroes are getting jobs like they got their churches — the white man's leavings. Just as the frost settles quietly on the land 'till it is hard as a rock, so now PREJUDICE (on the part of whites) and BLINDNESS (on the part of Negroes) are freezing the Negro worker at the bottom of the ladder, where wages are lowest, where [illegible] sick leave, pensions, raises, promotions, unions are an

Nation
New York, N. Y.
NOV 6 1943

Labor Forum

THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WAGE-Hour Act finds the principle of fair working standards an accepted and integral part of the American industrial structure. When the act was first adopted in 1938 there were widespread predictions of disaster and calamity. It was said that whole industries would be ruined, that men would be replaced by machines, and that American industry would find itself unable to compete, on either home or foreign markets, with foreign industries that were under no such restrictions. One Senator from the South declared that the act had "crucified Dixie." Actually, none of the pessimistic predictions were borne out. Instead of calamity, the act brought unprecedented prosperity to many parts of the South, and many of the prophets of despair are now among its strongest supporters. As a result of the recommendations of all of the sixty-nine industrial committees set up under the law, it is expected that the minimum wage of 40 cents an hour will soon be put into effect throughout the country, two years ahead of the deadline set by Congress at the time the act was originally adopted. Although this minimum would seem to mean little under war-time conditions, it may prove of great assistance after the war. It should be particularly valuable as a means of preventing wage discrimination against Negroes, women, and other minority groups in the post-war period.

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.
NOV 6 1943

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH
REEL 82

unkown tongue . . . are workers are at the mercy of every ill wind that blows.

Post-War Status Depends On Kind of Work

Where and at what a Negro works is a problem, not only for the present but for the days after victory. It may be true that a people can rise no higher than its women. It is also true that the women can't rise unless there is money in the bank. And there'll be no money in the bank, if all we are doing after the war is making 60 to 84 hours a week for ten to eighteen dollars. Yet, that is just where we are headed, if we don't pull rein and cut the other way to learning how to run the wheels which run the nation.

Some Facts

FACT ONE: Negroes are not getting training for skilled work at the same rate as whites. For example, in the Southeast, where more than one-half of all Negroes live, only one out of ten workers trained for war work has been a Negro. Yet on basis of population at least 7 out of 13 should have been receiving training. What is the score? For every Negro trained in this large are three more should have been trained.

FACT TWO: Negroes are moving from the South. Those on the farms are sick and tired of neck bones, fat back and the pig's tail. Their first move is to the towns and cities nearest them. Once there, they get the Harriet Tubman Itch and pick up the North Star even under cracker skies.

FACT THREE: When Negroes get North . . . that is to the Constitutional part of the USA . . . they find not a Promised Land but the same old Planter's Punch waiting to knock them down in the gutter. The Apostles of slavery have moved north.

The Office of War Information released on August 26 a report on Dayton-Springfield, Ohio, industries which gives a clue to what is going on in the North. This report has precious little to say about Negroes, for Dayton and Springfield had little for Negroes to do. But buried in its 13 pages are some facts which shout: NEGROES DO SOMETHING TO GET YOURSELF OUT OF THIS JOB RUT WHILE THE WAR STILL DEMANDS MORE WORKERS.

After wading through oceans of figures and fancies, you will find out the following from this report, which says that Dayton and Springfield are "the nation's outstanding example of effective community action on wartime manpower problems" . . . In 1940, Negroes were 7.4% of the total population of 281,380 in these cities. Between 1940 and 1943, 78,620 new people moved in the area, an increase of 28%. In 1940, Negroes held approximately 2.6% of the jobs that really count, namely, the industrial, manufacturing jobs. In July, 1943, Negroes still held only 2.8% of the industrial jobs in the area. Yet, practically every Negro in the area is working. IN PLAIN TALK, THE NEGRO IS LESS THAN TWO CENTS OUT OF A DOLLAR BETTER OFF THAN HE WAS WHEN THE WAR BEGAN IN A CITY WHERE THE BEST JOB PLACEMENT HAS BEEN DONE WELL. IT IS TIME TO GET GOING FAST

The Long View Of Employment Practices

Journal & Guide

IN AN editorial which presented with firmness and logic certain aspects of the recent findings and directives of the Fair Employment Practice Committee in the railroad cases the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot made the observation that the Committee might well have confined its directives to the main issue—that of employment—instead of "attacking all forms of racial discrimination—in railway promotion as well as in hiring."

Norfolk, Va

In making that observation—which appears sound enough—the Virginian-Pilot had before it a statement by Chairman Malcolm Ross, of the Committee, in the course of which Mr. Ross said:

> The firemen problem, and the problems of upgrading, job assignments and seniority rights of Negroes in the operating divisions and the shops were the subject of four days of FEPC hearings in September. The railroad unions chose to ignore the hearings. The carriers made a perfunctory appearance. Their letter now makes a bid for public disapproval of FEPC by viewing with alarm alleged pretensions of Negroes to be engineers and conductors. The plain fact is that this issue—necessarily covered because complaints were received and no rebuttal offered—is dormant and could remain so if the railroads offer justice to Negro railroadmen in the classifications where reason and public policy both urge it. Certainly it is not the part of candor to seize upon the most delicate issue in order to avoid the many basic problems squarely placed before the railroads.

Mr. Ross' statement speaks for itself, but there is this to be said also: The railroad unions so worded the agreement under which they stopped the hiring of Negroes and began the gradual elimination of those still working, that it could not be attacked as an unfair, discriminatory practice without raising the question of promotion and seniority. This question is inextricably bound to the basic question of employment and tenure. The unions knew what they were doing. They did it with calculated design, and with the purpose in view that when and if the time ever came when the notorious pact was attacked they, or the railroads, or both of them, could bring out and exploit the most delicate issue involved.

This is also something to remember: If the "non-promotable" principle can be made the basis of an agreement between ONE union and ONE industry, and becomes the pattern of employment practices—as is now true in the case of the railroads—it can be made the basis of agreement between ALL unions and ALL industries, resulting in the TOTAL exclusion of ALL Negroes from ALL skilled or semi-skilled employment.

G. JAMES FLEMING SPEAKS AT WIS. U. ON EMPLOYMENT

Chicago Bee

Chicago, Illinois

MADISON, Wis., Nov. 18. (ANP)—Five different audiences—on and off the campus of the University of Wisconsin—heard G. James Fleming, regional director of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, Philadelphia, in a two-day visit to this city last Tuesday and Wednesday.

Fleming, an honor graduate of the university, spoke on different aspects of labor problems as they affect minority group workers and was heard by a group of faculty members on Tuesday evening, and by the American Association of University Women, the Union Forum, a graduate seminar in labor union problems, and the Madison branch of the NAACP on the following day.

"Although there have been what may be called tremendous gains in the fair employment of Negroes, the millennium has not been reached," Fleming declared, "and industries are still following discriminatory patterns in their selection of help. In the higher skills, in the case of office workers and supervisory personnel, it is still difficult for Negroes to find jobs."

The exigencies of the war and the great demand for labor of all kind have eased the barriers, Fleming said, but there is still considerable waste of talent and experience, and Negroes must still fight for upgrading and promotion.

Fleming recalled the plight of Negroes during the early stages of the national emergency, how they were refused employment in every type of war industry where skill is required, how they were prevented from accepting certain jobs by unions, and how even defense training was barred to Negroes in some sections of the country. He also told how Jewish workers and Spanish Americans were discriminated against at the very time when the government was calling for maximum production.

Significant Improvement.

"But compared with 1940 and 1941 and earlier there has been significant improvement," he showed, as he related how the FEPC has brought into the open the discriminatory practices and as how the committee has been strengthened after each attempt to make it ineffective.

Fleming told the university women, several of them the wives of important businessmen, how they can help to push the program of fair employment by (1) being informed on the "unwanted" position in which minority group workers find themselves, by (2) having the courage to make themselves heard individually and collectively when there are signs or evidence of discrimination because of race religion, color, or national origin; by (3) helping to enlighten their husbands on the subject of race; (4) by feeling free to associate with Negroes and Negro organizations, and (5) by calling the attention of FEPC to violation of the executive order.

Fleming urged that courses stressing the contributions of minority group citizens to the country be included in high school and college courses, and that leading citizens and lawmakers be made aware that what happens to Negroes, Jews, and Mexicans in the United States can greatly help or hinder the war effort both at home and abroad.

In speaking to the NAACP, Fleming called upon Negroes to make the most of the new opportunities now open to them; to make the greatest effort to give the lie to all the stereotypes that Negroes are more given to absenteeism, to lateness on the job, to poor discipline, to rowdiness, and so on.

Fleming also urged Negroes to be wide-awake to the larger issues and problems in American life, because the kind of country we live in—whether an expanding or a contracting company, whether more democratic or totalitarian—will have everything to do with the future status of the race in America.

GENERAL

HOLD YOUR JOB

Campaign to Help People To Hold Their Jobs Should Be Supported by Citizens

BY JOSEPH D. BIBB

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

INTELLIGENT and far-seeing colored people, realizing that the future participation of their workers is at stake, have wisely set about to do something tangibly constructive. The National Hold-Your-Job committee, consisting of alert and active colored citizens, from important points throughout the nation, has set aside the week of September 12 to September 18, as a time to focus the attention of the people on the means and methods of making good on the job, breaking down spurious contentions against them, and winning the goodwill of both their employers and their fellow workers. This effort is timely and constructive, and should be of inestimable benefit, both to the industry of the nation and to the great hordes of workers.



Mr. Bibb

The most important task confronting the committee and its supporters is the necessity of getting the message over to the workers themselves. It is highly necessary that they be awakened to a full sense of their responsibilities and duties, and that they be convincingly informed that they are being attacked by sinister and evil forces, that they are being maligned and slandered, and that studied attempts are being made to poison the minds of both their employers and their fellow workers against them. The attention of the colored worker must be arrested. He must be reached and he must heed the warnings, and the admonitions of the "Hold Your Job" committee.

DURING the course of the campaign, convincing evidence will be laid before the employers, designed and calculated to discount the propaganda of the enemies of the colored workers who have persistently charged that "Negroes have a peculiar body odor; that Negroes are careless about health and cleanliness; that Negroes are syphilitic; that Negroes are guilty of a large percentage of absenteeism; that Negroes are of inferior intelligence; that Negroes receive more garnishments than white workers; that Negroes are unaccustomed to exacting industrial discipline; that they are unreliable and less satisfactory than white workers; that Negroes and white workers do not co-operate together, neither will be happy and that there will be trouble if that employment of Negroes lead to undesirable social intercourse."

MUST OF NECESSITY MAINTAIN JOBS

These accusations will be disputed and decried and will be discounted by substantial proof that the committee has secured. The workers themselves should be acquainted and informed of the great struggle that they must wage to hold their jobs and to maintain a place in the sun for themselves.

Those who read about the "Hold Your Job" campaign should pass on the propaganda, inform the workers of what is expected of them, and, in short, engage themselves in the stupendous task of securing economic liberty and social liberty for their people.

IF the colored American is not sagacious enough to know that the most vital phase of his existence is the maintenance of his job, then he is doomed to remain shackled, underprivileged and deprived of all the freedoms that go along with democracy.

WORKERS MUST MAKE SELF-APPRAISAL

It will be well for the colored worker to make a cold-blooded and dispassionate appraisal of himself and to become aware of his shortcomings. It will be well for him to understand, that he will not advance his cause by constantly belaboring the white man and those enemies of his who are cunningly plotting against him. He will benefit himself by improving the quality of his work, his conduct on and off the job, and proving his adaptability to the accepted codes of modern day workers.

THE worker himself must be aroused and awakened to the full realization that it is HIS JOB and that in the last and final analysis that HE IS THE ONE who must figure out the most feasible things to do to win security and the good-will of his employers and his fellow workers. The committee can merely point the way and map the plan, but the colored worker must stand the acid test.

CITIZENS SHOULD AID CAMPAIGN

The colored worker in the past has labored under different conditions. He is no longer largely a sharecropper, a peon or a tenant farmer. He is a war worker, and is a cog in the machinery producing to meet the war exigencies. When the war is ended, there is a strong possibility that for a few years to come there will be a boom in industry. There is a good chance that the exceptional workers will be held on the job. Those who stay on the job now and do their bit should be given preference. There is every hope that there will be a need for the colored worker and that is why he should strain every nerve and fibre to measure up and make good.

EVERY good citizen should join in the "Hold Your Job" campaign and spread the message and emphasize the importance of every worker knowing what lies before him. If the colored American is enabled to hold his job, the way of the future will be bright before him. HOLD YOUR JOB!

Hold-Your-Job Campaign

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

By GORDON B. HANCOCK

DURING the year there are many "weeks" observed, but the forthcoming Hold-Your-Job week is the greatest. It shows that the Negro is at last getting down to brass tacks and facing the ugly facts of his circumscribed life.

Fifteen years ago this column launched a Hold-Your-Job campaign that has never been popular among Negroes. It was largely a one-man affair and one-man affairs are, in the nature of things, limited in their usefulness. In an article to Opportunity entitled "When The Manna Faileth there was outlined for the first time the danger that was surrounding the Negro workers in their several fields. It was pointed out that whites were competing on every level, whereas 40 years ago whites were above certain "Negro jobs." Even in this article it was pointed out the displacement of Negroes by whites as well as a well-defined movement that the Negro would do well to study seriously.



DR. HANCOCK

The article won for me the title "Gloomy Dean" which has since become a badge of honor in that it indicates how clearly I was facing the issues. The only way that Negroes could survive the ruthless competition about him was to hold-his-job with a religious tenacity. The future of the Negro in this country was conditioned upon his conversion to the religion of the Hold-Your-Job gospel.

POSITIONS VERSUS JOBS

So persistently did I preach the Hold-Your-Job gospel that one lady said I was crazy. She said "That man must be crazy, Negroes don't want positions." She had two sons both of whom aspired for "positions" but had to be content with jobs, as most Negroes have to do. That dear lady did not seem to appreciate the fact that jobs must underlie all positions. No position is secure unless there are jobs behind it. The emerging of hundreds of Negro graduates each year with their various degrees, only makes imperative the need for more jobs. So when Negroes lay aside everything and go about the observance of a Hold-Your-Job week they are not going crazy, they are "going wise."

The common sense tied up in such laudable enterprise is one of the most encouraging features of the whole matter. It is fine to hitch our wagons to the stars of positions; but it is not amiss to also hitch them to the job by which men in positions live and move and have their being.

The Negro has always been the first fired and the last hired and so in the days before us unless the Negro digs in NOW and digs DEEP, he is doomed in the postwar world. These Negroes who are thus sponsoring the Hold-Your-Job week are doing the race an everlasting service. They are not only "going crazy," but they are actually "gone wise" in a way that Negroes must go wise if they are to survive in this country.

NEED PLAIN TALK

There has been launched in a very subtle way a movement to improve the public behavior of Negroes. This is as it should be. The fact that whites are so poorly mannered in many cases does not excuse the Negro. That bad-mannered white man has a hundred advantages over the bad-mannered Negro. Before the public these bad-mannered whites are called delinquents, and the bad-mannered Negroes are called criminals. When whites are overtaken in faults it is a matter of circumstances; when Negroes are taken it is their race.

Negroes need therefore admonition as to their manners and the subtle campaigns along this line are strictly in order. As soon as we get through with our Hold-Your-Job campaign let's launch one called Negro-Don't Spend All-This-Easy-Money-for-Good-Times campaign.

More of this plain talk of the Hold-Your-Job kind will be an untold blessing. Negroes alone can speak plainly to Negroes.

Wanted: A Million War Workers To Sign Pledge of Efficiency

Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Workers who are interested in making the most of their jobs are urged to read the Negro War Worker's Pledge reproduced below.

After careful consideration, if you feel you would like to live up to the provisions of this Pledge, please clip out the Pledge, sign the SIGNATURE CERTIFICATE, tear it off and mail promptly to the National Council of Negro Women, Department of Employment, 1812 Ninth Street, N. W., Washington 1, D. C. Workers should KEEP THE PLEDGE so that it may serve as a record of their pledged intentions.

WAR WORKERS PLEDGE

As a Negro war worker, I know that the job I am performing every day is contributing to the Victory of my country in a war to guarantee four fundamental Freedoms to peoples of every race, color and creed. I know, also, I am contributing to a record which will prove to the world that Negroes are efficient and dependable workers.

I fully realize that my conduct, my work-habits, my attitudes, and my trust-worthiness are the weapons I must use to combat misunderstandings and prejudices, and are the tools I must use to open wider the doors of opportunity which now stand ajar for my race. Further, I realize that training is an additional tool to that opportunity.

I shall never for a moment forget that 13 million Negroes believe in me and depend upon me. I shall perform every duty, large or small, with the knowledge that the employment of other Negro workers may depend upon my success. I am a soldier in the Home Front, and I shall keep the faith.

To my nation, and to my race, I solemnly pledge:

1. To carry myself with the dignity of a worker and a citizen of my community by being congenial so as not to make my fellow-workers bear the brunt of my fatigue, nervous tensions, or my bitterness growing out of my grievances.
2. To be industrious and efficient, so those who would hold me back shall never be able to defend their actions by pointing to my record and finding it blotted with inefficiency.
3. To safeguard my health, by being clean, neat, and congenial so as not to make my personal habits offensive to my fellow-workers as a member, but, so that I am physically fit to suitably dressed on and off the job.
4. To support organized labor not only as a member, but as an active participant, for I realize that this is an avenue through which many of my problems as a member may be approached.
5. To be cognizant every day—including the day after weekends and the day after pay days.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

105.

6. To stand firmly for every privilege of an American citizen including the opportunity to use my skills for the Victory of my country; but, at the same time, to accept the full responsibility of deserving every privilege I seek as my right.

7. Finally, I reaffirm, as a real and living creed, the universal avowal of every American:

"I pledge allegience to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands—one nation, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all."

TO WAR-WORKERS: Tear off the signature certificate on the dotted line below. Mail it in promptly to the National Council of Negro Women, Department of Employment, 1812 Ninth Street, N. W., Washington 1, D. C. KEEP THE PLEDGE WITH YOU. See that the Wartime Employment Clinic gets your signature certificate.

SEP 24 1943

SIGNATURE CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that I have read, that I believe in, and that I will do my best to fulfill the Negro War-Workers Pledge, which I shall bring to the attention of my fellow-workers.

Signature .....

Date .....

Our Shortcomings On The Job

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa

The findings of Associated Negro Press Investigator Leon W. Taylor, after a three-year study of racial discrimination in American industry, are most illuminating and should make Negroes sit up and take notice, to say nothing about mending their ways.

Mr. Taylor found that of 1,000 Negroes summarily discharged from their jobs: 314 were dismissed for laziness or refusal to work out a given period; 234 were dismissed for drunkenness; 149 were dismissed for using obscene language; 185 were dismissed for being abusive to fellow-workers; 62 were fired for continued boisterousness after being warned, while 62 were dismissed for theft.

Mr. Taylor interviewed 500 white workers concerning their willingness to work with Negroes in any capacity, and discovered that 46 were strongly in favor, 181 were willing, 60 were against Negroes in skilled jobs, 20 were willing to work with Negro janitors, and 193 qualified their willingness with the privilege of naming Negro workers with whom they would labor.

The chief grievances of the white workers against Negroes were: boisterousness (39%), uncleanlinesss (17%), boisterousness and uncleanliness together (9%), shiftlessness and laziness (11%), etc.

It is quite clear from Mr. Taylor's findings (which accord with the observations of many others) that if we are to have any future of importance in American industry, the responsible Negro leaders: i.e., the ministers, social workers, teachers and business men and women will have to finance and set up a system of widespread intra-group education, and do it at once in each community. AFTER THE WAR WILL BE ENTIRELY TOO LATE.

If we can teach the masses of our people to be quiet, courteous, clean, neat, industrious, sober and thrifty, we shall immeasurably speed up the process of their integration into American economic, social and political life.

How Negro Rail Workers Declined In 30 Years

Journal & Guide

Norfolk, Va.

Table Ia

All Locomotive Firemen, Number and Proportion of Negroes in the United States, and in the South, 1910-1940.

	UNITED STATES			THE SOUTH[1]		
Year	All Workers	Negroes	Per Cent Negro	All Workers	Negroes	Per Cent Negro
1910	76,381	5,188	6.8	11,782	4,897	41.6
1920	91,345	6,505	7.1	13,621	5,636	41.4
1930	67,096	4,642	6.9	11,534	3,818	33.1
1940[2]	47,410	2,356	5.0	7,215	2,128	29.5

DEC 4 1943

SOURCE: U. S. Decennial Census of Occupations, 1910-1940.

1. Includes Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia.

2. Includes total of "Employed" and "Experienced Workers Seeking Work" groups, which is roughly equivalent to "gainful workers," (workers attached to industry) as used in previous enumerations.

Table Ib

All Railway Trainmen,[3] Number and Proportion of Negroes in the United States, and in the South, 1910-1940.

	UNITED STATES			THE SOUTH		
Year	All Workers	Negroes	Per Cent Negro	All Workers	Negroes	Per Cent Negro
1910	165,530	6,839	4.1	16,381[4]	4,886	29.8
1920	216,024	7,609	3.5	22,944[5]	5,083	22.2
1930	180,414	5,918	3.3	22,920	3,745	16.3
1940[2]	113,736	2,857	2.5	13,604	2,060	15.1

DEC 4 1943

SOURCE: U. S. Decennial Census of Occupations, 1910-1940

3. Includes brakemen, switchmen and flagmen.

4. Data for eight states only.

5. Data for nine states only.

Post-War Jobs

Some extremely interesting and significant things are being said about the problem of post-war employment which should be carefully considered. Courier

The end of the war will mean a cessation of war orders and the forced closing of numerous plants, and that means unemployment, at least until some plants are retooled. Pittsburgh, Pa.

Soldiers and sailors are only going to be gradually discharged, it is said, while women and youths will be promptly discharged; but even this will not stave off unemployment.

What plans are Negro leaders making to cope with this problem which will be especially rough for Negroes?

Can Negroes do anything constructive about this? If so, ought we not busy ourselves about it now while the war is on and wages are plentiful?

35g-1943

GENERAL

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Defender
Chicago, Ill

By WALTER WHITE

OCT 30 1943

Jobs In Hollywood

IT IS IMPORTANT that the Negro produce actors and actresses for the screen to meet what we hope will be an increased demand from Hollywood to play the roles promised by producers and the recent Writers Congress. But few of the Negro screen players now in pictures or who may enter the field are going to have roles to play unless there are stories written for them. Nor is the Negro going to achieve full stature in the films unless he through training, native ability and persistence enters into the technical departments of the industry.



Walter White

Openings in these two fields are now available and should be vigorously pursued by interested young Negroes who have the ability. During one of the seminars of the Writers Congress, Col. Darryl Zanuck of Twentieth Century-Fox disclosed that his company had recently signed twenty young writers at modest salaries for apprenticeship courses under experienced writers. The Hollywood Reporter of October 6th announced that Paramount Pictures, "anticipating a shortage of competent screen writers in the near future" had started a plan to build up a reservoir of trained writing talent similar to that of Twentieth Century-Fox. Paramount hopes to get at least ten or fifteen men and women whose work has been published or used in magazines, on the radio, the stage or in newspapers or who are authors of either fiction or non-fiction books who can be trained in the fundamentals of writing for the screen. William Dozier, story head of the Paramount studio, the Hollywood Reporter announced, was shortly leaving for New York to interview writers who have been culled from a sizable number by Mr. Dozier's assistant.

OCT 30 1943

Chance For Race Writers

I HAVE BEEN told here in Hollywood by some of my writer friends that all the major studios have either inaugurated or soon will adopt apprentice training of similar nature. Here is a chance for Negro writers.

Greater discouragement will face them than white writers face—at least in some of the studios. But if they have the ability and the guts to overcome obstacles they can do invaluable pioneering which will bring fame and, eventually, good salaries. They can furnish Hollywood with screen plays and parts for Negroes. But they should not write solely of Negroes. There is no reason why a Negro writer, if he is competent and observant and imaginative enough, should not turn out scripts about white and other life as well.

There is another field of motion picture work which is very important in which Negroes should be permitted to obtain training and experience. The Signal Corps of the United States Army has established at Astoria, Long Island a moving picture training school for soldiers. The men assigned to this school are learning how to be cameramen, laboratory technicians, cutters, directors and other skilled artisans.

OCT 30 1943

So far as I have been able to find out only one Negro has as yet been assigned to work in producing moving pictures which are being turned out in quantity by the Army, Navy and other government agencies. That one is Carleton Moss who from all reports has done an excellent job on, "Negro Soldier," a film made for the Signal Corps by Frank Capra, Major George Heisler, and Mr. Moss.

Excellent Training

NEGRO SOLDIERS should apply for this specialized course in movie making and thereby get the excellent training which will quality them for technical work in Hollywood after the war is over.

Slowly but surely new doors of opportunity are being opened in the making of the most powerful media the mind of man has yet devised for influencing the emotions, mind, eye and ear. But those doors will close again or their being opened will be useless unless Negroes have the skills and willingness to work and study and learn which are absolutely essential for the effective utilization of those skills.

To aspiring young writers and technicians let me utter a word of caution and advice. Dismiss from your minds a Hollywood of glamorous parties and easy living. There is gaiety and glamour here. But there is also very hard work. Unless you are ready to work hard and to study hard it would be far better for you to stay away. There are too many phonies here already who want fame and fortune handed to them on a platinum platter.

Are Negroes Properly Safeguarding the Occupational Gains They Have Made During This War?

OCT 2 1943

YEA

I think that many Negroes are doing their jobs in such way that whenever and wherever possible employers will want their services after the war. Not all Negroes are stupid enough to be careless about their jobs simply because they know that they can get others. Those who are well paid, and treated properly are trying to come up to expectations. I know of no reason that they should not be retained after the war.

Mrs. Johnie Atkins,
Houston, Texas

Informer

OCT 2 1943

Despite all of the ugly features of this war, it has taught Negroes to keep themselves in prime and prepared to hold more jobs requiring different kinds of skills. After the war any effort to keep Negroes from holding certain types of jobs will not pass without challenge. There are still some fine people who are more interested in work well done than in color of skin, and when the war is over they will keep those who have done good work.

Mrs. Margaret Henderson
Margaret's Beauty Salon
2403½ Elgin Ave.
Houston, Texas

OCT 2 1943

35

More are safeguarding their jobs than most people seem to think. Only a few bufoons are acting up because they know that they can work elsewhere, but the majority of Negroes with any intelligence know quite well that a chance to hold their jobs after the war depends more on how well they do their work than upon what shade the complexion happens to be. I think, however, that what one does on his job should be discussed in our schools, Sunday schools and churches. Many young people could benefit by a little teaching, especially those girls who work in Rettig's Dowling St. store.

Anon.

OCT 2 1943

NAY

I regret very much to say that almost two-thirds of the Negroes who have "war jobs" are primarily interested in pay day, and not in trying to establish a good work record for post war security. I sometimes worry over some of the attitudes that I see evidenced in persons who have a golden opportunity to sell the Negro race by doing their work well. Those who may shirk because of inequalities in pay, are forgetting that one must take a few ugly deals in order to get bigger stakes later.

Robert Louis King,
Houston, Texas.

Informer

OCT 2 1943

I think that the unfortunate failure to safeguard jobs is due to the human tendency to show disdain for oppression and maltreatment. Many Negroes who now have good jobs fail to realize that they

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of standards. I do wish
give a few of the peo-
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Anon.

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egro workers.

F. Spears.

AFTER THE WAR – WHAT? WILL YOU

KEEP YOUR JOB? ☞ OR ☜ GO BACK TO RELIEF?

DEC 18 1943
Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

It Depends On:

1. **Being on your job regularly and on time.**
2. **Your Personal Appearance:** See to it that you go to work clean, and, if possible, clean up before you leave work.
3. **Your Attitude Toward—**
   Your fellow workers: Do your best to co-operate with your fellow workers. You are merely a cog in the entire production machinery.
   Your supervisor: He is no better than his department. Assist him by doing your part well.
   Your employer: Remember that you were hired to do a job for which you are being paid. Give your employer his money's worth. Be co-operative.
4. **Your Health:** Eat, sleep, rest and play sensibly. Avoid overindulgence in anything. Watch your drinking. Enjoy life, but do it wisely.
5. **Your Record:** Success on a job depends upon the work record that you establish. Know your job well and attempt to improve constantly. Your employer keeps the record—you make it.
6. **Union Co-operation:** If your plant is organized, join the union. Pull with your fellow-workers, not against them. Be active.

The above desirable work habits are the best insurance against being the "first to be fired."

It Will Happen, If You Are:

1. **Absent Often,** and especially after pay day, or constantly late. Production soldiers are as important as fighting soldiers.
2. **Inefficient and Irresponsible:** A careless worker is a liability to the company, not an asset. Employers seldom keep such workers longer than they have to do so.
3. **Clowning and Arguing on the Job:** Horseplay is dangerous to other workers. There is a place for entertainers, but that place is not your job. The job is no place to debate social, racial, or political issues.
4. **Insulting and Impolite:** Treat others as you would have them treat you. Don't carry a chip on your shoulder.
5. **Loafing on the job:** You were hired to work. Don't forget it.
6. **A "Garnishee" Worker:** Every attachment on your wages means more work for your employer. It makes your presence undesirable in his plant. Pay your debts, live modestly, and put your "extra" money in War Savings Stamps and Bonds.

Never quit "at the drop of a hat." Give your employer sufficient notice, always.

DEC 18 1943
DEC 18 1943
DEC 18 1943
DEC 3 1943

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This was taken from a pamphlet issued by the Vanguard League in Columbus, Ohio, and distributed among war workers in Dayton).

og-1943

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

City Garbage Collectors Win $12,000 Raise

JAN 22 1943

Averts Strike of 222, Asserts Alderman as Council Votes.

A wage increase of 35 cents per hour to 222 Negro garbage collectors employed by the city sanitary department was authorized at yesterday's session of City Council. Alderman E. A. Gilliam, who introduced the resolution, said that the increase was necessary if an impending strike were to be averted. He added that the increase would bring the pay of the collectors to $3.65 per day, and would cost the city approximately $12,000 for the remainder of the year.

A request to Council by the Chamber of Commerce, the Real Estate Board and the Atlanta newspapers that the city contribute $100 for the rest of the year for an office and accessories for a War Housing Center was referred to the finance committee. It was proposed that the city pay that amount, contingent upon Fulton county putting up a like sum.

Alderman Gilliam, who offered the resolution, said that the National Housing Agency would supply the center with personnel and that its purpose would be to provide housing for the city's rapidly increasing number of war workers.

Council granted to the Atlanta Milling Company, of 196 Butler street, S. E., a request that the company be allowed to increase its grinding room by 42,000 square feet. Council waived regulations requiring a sprinkler system for the addition, since the company announced it was unable to obtain priorities for one.

A letter to Council from Mayor Hartsfield announced the appointment of Mrs. LaVada Hulbert as secretary of the new Beauty board. Her appointment, dating from June 17, is for three years.

Paging Ripley

A Diesel Fireman

Courier
JUL 31 1943
Pittsburgh, Pa.

ATLANTA, July 29—(ANP)—At least one Negro fireman operates regularly on a Diesel engine on a main line in the South, it was disclosed Wednesday at the biennial convention of the International Association of Railway Employed here.

He is B. W. Steele of Birmingham. Employed on the L. and N., Steele, known as an engineer's helper on the Diesel streamlines, began railroading in 1904, became a fireman in 1910, and qualified for his present work last year.

Since the advent of Diesel engines, railroads have refused to hire Negro firemen, because new duties are less manual labor and nearly approach a white collar job.

JUL 31 1943

LADY BELLHOP

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier



AUG 7 1943

When the draft claimed the last bellhop at Macon, Georgia's Atlantic hotel, the management found a solution to its manpower problem in the person of Mrs. Effie Levere, who is the first of her sex to fill such a position here.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

One Negro Fireman On Diesel Engine

JUL 22 1943

At least one Negro fireman operates regularly on a Diesel engine on a main line in the South, it was revealed at the meeting of the I. A. of R. E.

He is B. W. Steele, of 910 11th St., No. 4, Birmingham, Alabama. Employed on the L. and N., Steele, now known as an engineer's helper on the Diesel streamliner, began railroading in 1904 became a fireman in 1910, and qualified for present work last year.

(Since the advent of Diesel engines, railroads have refused to hire more Negro firemen, since the new duties require considerably less manual labor and constitute a clean, almost white-collar job. Old firemen fear that the move will completely shut the door to prospective Negro trainmen. There was practically negligible opposition to Negroes doing the hard and tiresome work on steam engines as firemen, before the advent of the stoker and Diesel engine.)

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Retires After 37 Years As Railroad Man

DEC 12 1943

Allen L. Brown, for 37 years in the railroad business was retired from active duty here November 30.

Mr. Allen had served the Central of Georgia Railroad faithfully for thirty years as passenger train brakeman and seven years with the Atlanta Terminal Company as Red Cap Porter.

At the time of his retirement here Mr Brown had just passed his 66th Birthday, October 10.

Members of the Red Cap organization, of which Mr. Brown had been a faithful member, tendered him a reception, honoring him for his long and faithful service and presented him a gift as their expression of appreciation. Several white officials of the Terminal organization joined in honoring Mr. Brown.

Expressing his genuine appreciation to the group, Mr. Brown stated that it had been a deep source of pleasure for him to have been associated with the group and that he felt he had been greatly helped by the kindnesses from the men of the groom.

Mr. Thomas Kerr, organist of Howard University, played the organ as friends and relatives assembled to witness the ceremony.

The couple [illegible] then left for a honeymoon in New York City.

DEC 12 1943

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.



OCT 29 1943

EXPERT BUTCHERS, NEGRO AND WHITE, work together in this department of Swift and Co., preparing hams and bacon for us throughout the United Nations. More than 2,000 Negroes are employed at the huge packing plant in the Stockyard area.

Order Shipyard To Rehire Negro

Courier
SEP 11 1943
Pittsburgh, Pa.

ATLANTA, Ga., Sept. 9—(ANP)—The appeal tribunal of the department of labor ruled Wednesday that the MacEvoy Shipbuilding corporation, Savannah, discharged John S. King, a cement finisher, without cause and ordered his immediate reinstatement.

King appealed to the bureau of unemployment compensation here after MacEvoy disqualified him for the calender week of January 18 and six weeks thereafter "on the ground that he had been discharged for misconduct connected with his most recent work."

Following his discharge, King registered for work and filed his claim with the compensation office on May 13 of this year. He declared he was "fired because I contended for overtime for which I was not paid." King contended that he was not guilty of misconduct connected with his work and that he was not subject to the disqualification imposed.

MacEvoy had declared that King was discharged for "cause" and was not eligible for rehire.

An investigation by the compensation bureau showed that King's wage transcript showed sufficient earnings to give him a weekly benefit amount of [illegible]

AUG 30 1943

Southeastern representatives of the American Federation of Labor pressed King's case after learning the facts. Plans are on foot to take the case before the War Production Board, according to W. P. Smart, an A. F. of L. representative.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Worker Wins Case Against Savannah Shipbuilding Co.

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AUG 30 1943

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Wednesday meant a wage increase for 222 Negro employes. The duties range from elevator operator to stationary engineer. The increase will mean a wage increase from 20 cents an hour to 35 cents an hour to 78 Negro employes, covered by the negotiated contract.

In addition the workers, whose duties range from elevator operator to stationary engineer, will be paid time for the first time and a half for all work over 40 hours a week, it was announced.

[illegible] connected with his work." after duct connected with his work." The appeals referee said the evidence in the case failed to justify disqualification.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia
ATLANTA, Ga.—(ANP)—Recognition of the Building Service by the AFL, [illegible]

In Atlanta, Ga. Win Pay Raise

Atlanta Ga.

DEC 12 1943

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

REEL 82

Negro Bus Drivers in Chicago

Company Agrees To Employ 50 In Near Future

FEB 12 1943

CHICAGO.—(ANP)—That Chicago buses will soon be operated by Negro drivers was indicated this week when the Chicago Motor Coach company signed a written agreement with the All-Chicago Committee Against Discrimination that 50 colored drivers be employed. FEB 12 1943

The agreement is regarded in labor and civic rights circles as an important advance in the long fight to secure employment for Negroes in the transportation industry here in jobs other than those of menials. FEB 12 194

At the conference where the pact was signed were Alds. Benjamin Grant and Earl B. Dickerson of the 3rd and 2nd wards, Oscar Brown, committee chairman, and president of the local branch N.A.A.C.P., Ishmael Flory and James Pinta, all of the All-Chicago committee. Benjamin Weintraub, president, represented the motor coach company.

The agreement states that Negroes will be given drivers' jobs as soon as seniority men on the concern's preferred list have been absorbed. Weintraub said there are about 210 men on the list. Members of the committee said they would check this list closely to see that the company keeps its promise. FEB 12 1943

During the discussions Weintraub declared that his company did not discriminate in the employment of Negroes and pointed to the 81 men now working for the firm. Under questioning by committee members he admitted, however, that these men were used only as cleaners, washers, and in other menial capacities.

Later the bus company president said he thought the demands of the committee were legitmate and that Mayor Edward J. Kelly had taken part in the campaign to get Negroes jobs as bus drivers. FEB 12 1943

Committee members expressed the opinion that the bus company had displayed good faith in signing the agreement but stated they would observe the situation closely to see that the pact is carried out.

FEB 12 1943

"This advance is the result of a series of united actions on the part of Negro people, backed by labor," said Flory. "This is just a beginning. We shall not stop until we get similar agreements from the Chicago Surface lines and the elevated lines.

The agreement reached here is similar to one arrived at in New York where Negroes are used on transportation facilities, principally the subway. Detroit street car lines employ Negro women and men, and Cleveland's surface lines use men as motormen and conductors. A group of men are now being trained in Los Angeles for future employment on surface cars. FEB 12 1943

Applicants for the jobs expected to be available in Chicago are being referred by committee members to the bus comany's employment offices to assure a sizeable number of men to draw up-

Negroes to be Employed On Surface Cars in Chicago

The Chicago Surface Lines has been notified that it must put Negroes to work. Negotiations leading to this settlement of charges of employment discrimination were conducted by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice that applications from Negroes for all types of jobs will be accepted and considered on the same basis as those of white persons, Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, announced today. The company operates all of the city's surface railways.

Coincident with this announcement of policy, made October 22, not subject to dismissal at the company revealed that the end of the war. first Negro platform man has been hired and put to work. Negroes in all categories would begin immediately, further declared that Negroes under 45 years of age who are hired would be considered permanent employees and

Washington, D. C. Tribune

NOV 6 1943

RETIRING AFTER 41 YEARS ON SAME TRAIN



Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illin

Retiring after 41 years as a club car attendant on the Twentieth Century Limited, Matthew Pierson (center) at the end of his last run indulges in a little triple harmony with William K. Shirk, engineer for 39 years with the New York Central, and Hugh Smith (right) the train's secretary. The song, "My Last Farewell."

Chicagoan Retires After 41 Years On Same Train

AUG 7 1943

The retirement on pension last week of Matthew A. Pierson, club car attendant on the New York Central's 20th Century Limited brought to a close a unique railroad career.

When the Century arrived in La-Salle street station on Thursday morning, Matt Pierson had worked continuously aboard the train almost 41 years, a record no other person can boast, and lacking less than two months of covering the entire existence, to date, of the train itself.

He made his first run on the Century between New York and Chicago, on August 15, 1902, exactly two months after the inauguration of that service.

Seventy years old last July 13, Mr. Pierson has more than 51 years of railroad service to his credit. He began work on June 16, 1892, as a buffet waiter for the Wagner Palace Car company, later taken over by the Pullman company, and was assigned to the Chicago limited, famous Chicago-New York train of those days. A short time later he was transferred to the Exposition flyer, which ran between the two terminal cities during the Chicago World's fair of 1893, and subsequently until 1902 served aboard other well-known trains.

Forty-one years on the Century have been more than just a job to Mr. Pierson. He is reluctant to retire, and feels as if he "is leaving a part of my life." His feeling about his career is perhaps best expressed in the fact that during his long service he has never had a complaint filed against him.

He is glad that he has never been in a train accident in nearly 10,000,000 miles of travel, and states that, if he were starting business life today, he would do it all over.

Having been brought into association with many of the great personages of the world who have ridden his train has constituted his greatest joy in his work. He likes to recall the first Marshall Field, J. P. Morgan, John Jacob Astor, who later died on the Titanic, John W. (Bet-a-Million) Yates and George A. Pullman.

Among the nation's presidents he recalls are the present chief executive, whom, he says, he served when the President was a young man, and Theodore Roosevelt. Motion picture stars galore have ridden his train. Just now he thinks Clark Gable and Jack Benny are "tops."

In all his 51 years in service he has never taken a vacation, nor lost time because of illness.

Mr. Pierson, a widower for 23 years, lives with a daughter, Mrs. Louise Galberth, here. Another daughther, Mrs. Ruth Bryant, is a resident of Washington, D. C., while a third daughter, Florence, died about three years ago. A stepson, Jerome Weller, is a Chicago attorney. AUG 7 1943

He enjoys good health and plans to spend much of his time in getting better acquainted with his grandchildren. He plans, too, to visit his home town of Franklinton, N. C., for the first time since he left there 52 years ago, and, perhaps, pay visits to his daughter in Washington, and a brother, who is a doctor in Hartford. Conn.

No Time Out For 51 Years

Pittsburgh, Pa Courier

CHICAGO, Aug 5—(ANP)—The retirement on pension July 29 of Matthew A. Pierson, club car attendant on the New York Central's 20th Century limited brought to a close a unique railroad career. When the Century arrived in La Salle street station at 9:30 Thursday morning, Matt Pierson had worked continuously aboard the train almost 41 years, a record no other person can boast, and lacking less than two months of covering the entire existence, to date, of the train itself. He made his first run on the Century between New York and Chicago on August 15, 1902, exactly two months after the inauguration of that service.

NO VACATION

In all his 51 years in service he has never taken a vacation, nor lost time because of illness.

Mr. Pierson, a widower for 23 years, lives with a daughter, Mrs. Louise Galbedth, here. Another daughter, Mrs. Ruth Bryant, is a resident of Washington, D. C., while a third daughter, Florence, died about three years ago. A stepson, Jerome Weller, is a Chicago attorney.

He plans too, to visit his home town of Franklinton, N. C., for the first time since he left there 52 years ago, and, perhaps, pay visits to his daughter in Washington, and a brother. who is a doctor in Hartford, Conn.

Chicago El Lines To Hire Negroes

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

(Special to the Daily Worker)

CHICAGO, Oct. 29. — Another milestone in breaking down Jim Crow hiring practices in Chicago's industries was marked today with the announcement that both Negro men and women would be hired by the elevated lines.

The victory follows similar action taken by the bus and surface lines which already have started hiring Negroes. All three of Chicago's transportation lines now are on record against discrimination in employing Negroes. The three victories will be celebrated with a rally at 2:30 P. M., Sunday, Oct. 31 at the Indiana Avenue Methodist Church, 56th Street and Indiana Avenue, at which Plato Bibbs, the first Negro to be hired on the lines, will speak. Bibbs was hired by the surface lines as a conductor.

Other speakers at the victory rally will be Attorney C. Francis Stradford, president of the National Negro Congress; Ismael C. Flory, vice-president of the Congress and chairman of its "Jobs Campaign" committee, and several representatives from both white and Negro organizations that supported the campaign which got under way last August.

Flory, outstanding leader in the fight for jobs for Negroes, is international representative of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union, CIO.

Both Negro and white organizations participated in the campaign. Among the groups represented were the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Community Church Council, Methodist Church ministers, Conference of Christians and Jews, the CIO, the AFL, and the Urban League.

CHICAGO ELEVATED

The latest transportation chief to agree to hire Negroes was A. A. Sprague, trustee of Chicago's elevated lines. After a conference with Negro and white leaders, he declared that Negro men would be hired as trainmen and Negro women as ticket takers.

"We have no idea how many we will hire at the beginning," Sprague said. "I want it understood that we are going to hire only persons who are amply qualified. To do otherwise, would be bad both for ourselves and for the persons we hire."

Sprague added that many applications from Negroes already are on file and would be considered first.

Those who attended the conference included Flory, Stradford, Alderman William A. Harvey of the second ward; state representative Corneal A. Davis; Frederick P. Wall, secretary to Representative William L. Dawson, Democrat of Illinois; Herbert March of the CIO Fair Employment Practices Committee; Ira Latimer, executive secretary of the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee; Bertha P. Tipton, executive secretary of the National Negro Congress, and the Rev. D. DeWitt Turpea, Jr., pastor of the Indiana Avenue Methodist Church.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Ill.

SURFACE LINES ACCEPT NEGRO AS CONDUCTOR

The Chicago Surface lines hereafter will use Negroes as motormen and conductors, hiring them only in accordance with their qualifications to do the work, Fred A. Nolan, general manager of the lines, announced yesterday in a letter to Elmer W. Henderson, regional director of the President's committee on fair employment practices.

The first Negro to be employed under the new policy is Plato Bibbs, 5355 Indiana avenue. He now is in training at the surface lines' school for conductors and will be placed on a car in about 15 days.

The fair employment practices committee has been negotiating with the surface lines and other public utilities for six weeks to gain equal opportunities for Negroes.

"It is a highly important step toward realization of democratic employment practices and of special significance from the point of view of utilization of man power in a vital war industry," Henderson said.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily [illegible]
October 23, 1943

To Use Negro Motormen

CHICAGO, Oct. 22 (AP)—The Chicago Surface Lines announced today it would employ Negroes as motormen and conductors on street cars, and said the first Negro would become a conductor in about 15 days.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Seek Clerk Jobs For Negro Women

CHICAGO — (ANP)—At a meeting of a special committee appointed by the woman's division of the Chicago Urban league to conduct a drive for obtaining jobs for Negro women as clerks in department stores, Mrs. Norman H. Freechling, chairman, named as heads of her subcommittees Mrs. Harold Rosenberg, public education; Miss Louise Kahn, contacts; Mrs. Dorothy Weber, public speakers, and Miss Suejette Crank, recruitment.

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Hire Colored Conductor In Chicago

CHICAGO —(ANP)— Employment of Colored people in Chicago got a lift last week with announcements by the Surface Lines company that the first conductor had been hired, and by the Motor Coach company that bus drivers would be called immediately.

The conductor, Plato Bibbs, is now in training at the Surface Lines school and after 15 days training will be assigned a run.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

STUDIES HIS STREET CAR RULES



Plato L. Bibbs, first Negro trainman to be employed by the Chicago Surface Lines, takes time out (inset) to show how he'll look in full regalia when he takes out his run at the end of his 15-day training period. Below, Bibbs studies the rules and regulations of the local transportation company, and says he is determined to master all details of his job so he can pave the way for more of his race to find employment as conductors and motormen.

Chicago 'L' And Buses To Give Jobs To Negroes

Defender
Chicago, Ill

Colored men and women will be hired by the Chicago Motor Coach and Rapid Transit lines as operators and ticket-takers, it was announced this week by officials of those two companies.

Abandonment of their previous discriminatory employment policy marked completion of a lengthy battle against the forces of bigotry, waged by Negro and interracial organizations on the three local public transportation utilities.

The victory was considered final with the statement by the two companies that they would hereafter employ Negro men as elevated trainmen and bus operators, and colored women as booth attendants in elevated stations. Action of the coach company and the elevated lines followed one week after a similar declaration had been made by the Chicago Surface Lines, operating the streetcars throughout the city.

The Surface Lines personnel department followed the announcement with the employment of a colored man, Plato Bibbs, 5355 Indiana avenue, as conductor.

Decision of the bus company to rescind all previous orders with regard to non-employment of colored applicants, was made public by Benjamin Weintraub, president of the company, late last week. Weintraub agreed to employ Negroes as bus operators following a conference with Ishmael P. Flory, vice president of the National Negro Congress, Alderman Benjamin Grant and officials of the Chicago branches of the N.A.A.C.P. and National Urban League.

Immediate change in the policy of the Rapid Transit Lines was promised Wednesday by A. A. Sprague, trustee of the company. Sprague reached an agreement whereby colored trainmen and ticket-takers would be put to work as rapidly as they can be qualified. He said that a large number of applications are already in his hands and that these will be acted upon first, with acceptance of other to follow.

Accompanying Flory at this conference with Sprague were: Atty. C. Francis Stratford, president of the National Negro Congress; Ald. William H. Harvey, (2nd), State Representative Corneal A. Davis, Frederick P. Wall, secretary to Representative William L. Dawson (Dem., Ill.); Herbert March of the C.I.O. Fair Employment Practice Committee, Ira Latimer, executive secretary of the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee; Bertha P. Tipton, executive secretary of the National Negro Congress, and the Rev. D. Dewitt Turpeau Jr., pastor of the Indiana Avenue Methodist church.

Named Employing Supervisor For R. R.

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va

CHICAGO, Ill., (ANP)—When a prospective employe of the dining service department of the Illinois Central railroad walks into the office seeking a job now he is greeted by the new supervisor of employment, Calvert Smith. Smith has charge of discovering as far as possible likely employes of the calibre Illinois Central would like to have, of selling the prospectives on the advantages of working for his road, and then of integrating the man into the job so that he will be able to serve efficiently and effectively.

Mr. Smith is an I. C. veteran. A native of Selma, Ala., he is a graduate of Selma University. He went to work for the I. C. summers before finishing college in '26. Has served as cook, waiter, then waiter-in-charge for 14 years until his recent promotion, at which time he was assistant chairman of Dining Car Employe's Union, Local 351.

Hold Your Job.

Bee (Magazine Section

WE are now concluding 'Hold Your Job Week,' September 12-18. Facts have been presented by the National Council of Negro Women in a pamphlet, "Wake Up! Your Job is in Danger', about the importance of Negroes properly acquiting themselves on their jobs and with those of other races with whom they work.

Too much emphasis cannot be placed on the importance of Negroes taking their job opportunities more seriously. Too much laxity, boisterousness, tardiness and absenteeism on the part of a thoughtless minority obscure the promptness, efficiency and demorum demonstrated by the less vociferous majority.

It is sublimely ridiculous that our whole race is summarily judged by the irresponsible antics and thoughtlessness of a minority. But since such is the case, it is critically urgent that Negroes, in every way, impress upon those who are dissipating future job opportunities by their foolish conduct and impromptness, to desist from their damaging folly.

Negro job holders are on trial, we repeat, and it is up to the entire group to make a favorable impression before it is too late. For when demobilization comes and some 8-10 million returning soldiers, plus those unemployed by dissolving war industry and various reconverting industries to peace-time manufacturing, swell the list of those seeking jobs, competition is going to be intensely keen. It does not take a seer to admonish Negroes of possible results.

Needless to say, purely as good business proceedure, quite aside from race-bias motivations, incompentents are going to be ousted in vast numbers. And this can, to a great extent, be averted by a concerted effort not only to measure up to, but to exceed the attendance and efficiency records of others whose concern necessarily is not as precarious as ours.

Every church, civic, social, political and fraternal organization can serve itself into a greater degree of gemi[illegible]efulness by making all Negro workers consciously aware of the opporutnity and responsibility which is now ours to hold our jobs and insure future economic security.

Street Car Job Crusade.

Chicago, Ill.
Bee (Magazine Section

THE local branch of the National Negro Congress has picked up the fight for jobs for Negroes as motormen and conductors on Chicago's surface lines. Several groups and individuals have been sporadically carrying on this fight since the early days of the depression, but none with such promising results as seem likely from the present fight.

A committee of the National Negro Congress, headed by Ishmael Flory augmented with representatives from other civil and religious organizations recently visited Frederick Nolan, general manager of the surface lines and other officials who promised a statement from the company in 30 days with reference to hiring Negroes as motormen and conductors.

Mr. Nolan has an acceptable past record in his relations with Negroes. When he was general manager of the Detroit surface lines he approved the hiring of Negroes as motormen and conductors.

It seems, however, in light of the manpower shortage with the surface lines daily advertising for badly needed help, that 30 days is an excessively long time to make a decision that should long ago have been arrived at.

Even disregarding the manpower shortage, as an economic compensation for the hundreds of thousands of dollars spent annually on the street cars, Negroes should long ago have been receiving jobs at levels higher than street car track repairmen.

However, with the presence of the emergency it is now imperative that Negroes be used to bridge the labor shortage gap on the surface lines. Too much tardiness, even absenteeisms are resulting from the over-taxed and insufficiently manned street car service.

Since it has been ascertained that the street car men's union, the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees local number 241, has no bars on account of race, color or creed, the hiring of Negro motormen and conductors should be effected with minimum delay.

THE TRACTION COMPANIES

Defender
Chicago, Ill

Mayor Kelly has intimated in no uncertain terms that: Chicago cannot logically or honestly grant any franchise to the competing traction companies that does not require unified operation and city-wide modernization of the surface lines, the elevated roads, and the bus lines.

We are in fundamental agreement with the mayor in this and hope that the words written here will constitute a rallying call for the Negroes of Chicago to support the mayor's position. Those who are now controlling our transportational facilities have been flirting to their financial advantage with these public utilities for years. They have as well made free use of the prejudices and racial ill-will to prevent some sections of our city's population

not believe that Mayor Kelly will permit
gnition of the any action of his to contribute in any
country at this way to strengthening un-American sub-
versive prejudices. We do believe that
ve white Amer- the mayor should take the leadership
y fight, for the in this fight against the racially harm-
power of the ful attitude of the traction bosses. If the
e without ex- facts that Negroes are being discrimi-
called forth by nated against because they are Negroes
nless it is suc- were carried to the people of Chicago
n, we can lose by the mayor and the forces closest to
war in a mili- him, we are satisfied that the response
and leave the would be like the response to the bond
hate and prej- drives which have seen us successively
the foundation go over the top.
uggles. We do The people of Chicago are against
the basis of equality in these utilities. manpower needs of our
We believe that the mayor must and strategic hour,
does recognize that while a franchise Negroes and progressive
should not be granted to those who are icans might, literally
not honest or logical in their attitude utilization of the labor
toward the modernization of our trans- Negro people everywhere
portational facilities, neither should ception. This struggle is
franchise be given them unless they are the grave danger that,
ready, particularly at this moment cessfully carried through,
when we need to use all of our labor the war or, winning the
forces, to employ Negroes on the basis tary sense, lose the peace
of equality with others. foundations of national
This is not a plea for special consid- udice remaining to form the
eration of treatment for Negroes, but of internal post-war

discrimination. Where they support it, it is in the main an unconscious and unknowing support. The many and various national groups that make up the composition of our city are displaying growing awareness that they cannot indulge in prejudices against any group of Americans without subjecting themselves to discriminatory practices on the basis of their national origin.

The fight for Negroes in the public utilities in Chicago is a fight for the American way of life. If successful here, as that fight has been in Cleveland, New York, Detroit and other cities, it will hasten the Americanization of those sections of our country that can still with impunity defy the democracy of Jefferson and Lincoln and ignore the program around which we have mobilized our people for the fight to destroy fascism.

Let's have jobs for Negroes in transportation now.

Gas Company Opens Its Doors To Negroes

Defender
Chicago, Ill

The People's Gas Light and Coke company, through its assistant manager of personnel, J. J. Solon, informed Rep. Fred J. Smyth, Third District, Illinois, chairman of the Citizens' public service committee, that all doors of opportunity were open to Negroes. The announcement was made at a meeting Thursday in the offices of J. M. Herrmann, manager of personnel.

Senator C. C. Wimbs opened the round table discussion with a request for "full integration of our people in all capacities with the gas company." Representative Corneal A. Davis, First District, Illinois, followed with an eloquent statement to show the need of this encouraging message during this war and race tensioned period.

Ald. William H. Harvey raised the question of employing Negroes within their qualifications and ability, instead of only extending the "working from the ground up" practice of the past. Frederick P. Wall, secretary to Congressman William L. Dawson, suggested that Negroes not be hired upon a quota basis but democratically.

Congressman Dawson, who arranged the session, but unable to attend, commended it as follows: "This is just another step towards the fulfillment into reality of President Roosevelt's edict to industry regarding full employment of Negroes."

First Negro Street Car Conductor Hired Here

Defender
Chicago, Ill

A Negro was hired this week as a streetcar conductor by the Chicago Surface Lines.

Plato Bibbs, 5355 Indiana avenue, employed to work on Thursday morning, was given his badge and cap and placed in a class for the training of incoming employes. Following the training period, Bibbs will be assigned to a trolley crew for three days' practical instruction, after which he will be placed on a streetcar, the first colored conductor in the history of the Chicago street transportation system.

Bibbs was formerly employed by the International Business Machines Co., where he worked for 11 years. He is one of eight men who have applied for jobs with the Surface Lines in the past several months.

Change To Be Permanent

Assurances were given on announcement of the hiring of Bibbs that the company has definitely changed its employment policy. Surface Lines officials declared that the change is to be a permanent one and not merely a wartime expedient. They pointed out, however, that men returning from the armed forces will be given preference over men hired more recently.

In a statement to Elmer W. Henderson, director of the Fair Employment Practice Committee regional office, carlines spokesmen said:

"At present we have upward of 1,500 of our people in the armed forces. Many of them will return to us, and hence we are hiring a number of temporary employees intending to keep them only until the soldiers return.

"However, the question of whether we consider a man as a temporary or a permanent employee does not hinge on whether he is Negro or white. In the main, if a new employee is under 45 we are considering him as permanent. If he is older, he is considered as temporary."

Bibbs is 35 years old. He, therefore, does not fall into the "temporary" class as defined by Surface Lines officials.

Applications of seven other Negroes have not as yet been acted upon, though it is generally known that the company has gone so far as to investigate the references of some of them.

MAYOR KELLY'S TRANSIT PLAN

Defender Chicago, Ill

Mayor Kelly's plan for the unification of the Chicago transit systems through municipal ownership should receive instant approbation of public spirited citizens who have watched with despair the growing muddle of our public transportation.

As outlined to the City Council by the Mayor, the plan calls for the purchase of the Surface Lines, the Rapid Transit Co., and the Motor Coach Co. These three lines would operate under the management of a non-political transit board. We believe this to be a sane solution to an "unhealthy civic situation." Since no new tax liability would be created by this merger, we see no reason why the plan should not be backed with enthusiasm by the citizens of Chicago.

Aside from the financial soundness of the Mayor's proposal, we of the black belt have a particular interest in the execution of such a scheme. We see in it the long sought opportunity to provide employment for Negroes in the Transit systems which have resisted so far all efforts to include competent members of our Race among their employees.

Under the Mayor's scheme the line of racial discrimination in the employment policy of our transportation systems would be obliterated. For, a transit board composed of fair-minded citizens of both races would not have to be prodded into doing the equitable and just thing for the people regardless of race, color or creed.

We heartily endorse Mayor Kelly's plan and bid our reading public to support it enthusiastically.

I.C. Appoints Negro to High Personnel Post

Chicago, Ill
(Magazine Section)

When a prospective employe walks into the office seeking a job now, he is greeted by the new supervisor of employment, Calvert Smith. Smith has charge of discovering as far as possible likely employes of the calibre Illinois Central would like to have, of selling the prospectives on the advantages of working for his road, and then of integrating the man into the job so that he will be able to serve efficiently and effectively.

Calvert Smith is something of an I. C. veteran. A native of Selma, Ala., he is a graduate of Selma university. He went to work for the I.C. summers before finishing college in 1926. Has served as [illegible] cook, waiter, then waiter-in-charge for 14 years until his recent promotion at which time he was assistant [illegible]man of Dining Car Employes' union, Local 351. Dining service Superintendent N. L. Patterson praises Smith's work, pointing out that 95 percent of the men employed by his department pass through Smith's hands. He, likewise, praised the 14 waiters-in-charge who operate dining cars out of his division.

35g-1943
Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

FIRST IN IOWA
MAR 18 1943



MR. LEWIS BROWN

Iowa has its first Negro male beautician to graduate from the only Negro beauty school in the state, the Crescent School of Beauty Culture in Des Moines, in the person of Mr. Lewis Brown, 21-year-old native Iowan.

MAR 18 1943

Mr. Brown, son of Mrs. Hattie Brown, 2403 First street, who recently passed the Iowa State Board of Cosmotology, will join the staff of his sister, Mrs. Lena King, who operates the Lena's Beauty Salon at 1204 Center street.

MAR 18 1943

Educated in Des Moines Mr. Brown is a graduate of North high school where he was outstanding in track.

During his advanced student days at the Crescent School he served as an operator at the WAAC Beauty Salon at Ft. Des Moines for seven months and was presented at his graduation a diploma from the F. W. Fitch Company, for the completion of a course in hair and scalp reconditioning.

MAR 18 1943

He graduated from the Crescent Beauty School on Feb. 9 where he had been under the instruction of Mme. Pauline Brown Humphrey.

35g-1943

KENTUCKY

Police May Guard Garbage Truck Men

Courier-Journal, Louisville, Ky.

FEB 2 - 1943

Although about forty, or 25 per cent, of Louisville's garbage tippers, helpers and drivers appeared determined not to work this morning, after issuing a wage increase demand yesterday, Acting Mayor Andrew Broaddus and Works Director Roy W. Burks declared that trucks would run "if we have to get a policeman on every truck."

FEB 2 - 1943

Burks, who talked with a somewhat noisy delegation of the employes yesterday, all of them Negroes, said there had been intimidation of drivers and other employes during the day and that he had been told some of the men might not work because of fear of the threatened beatings.

Efforts to halt the walkout were being made yesterday by Pat Ansboury, business agent for the Truck Drivers Union, who previously had issued a notice to the prospective strikers declaring that such a walkout would be "unpatriotic and unnecessary."

The notice declared city authorities were trying to work out a solution of the wage increase demand, and pointed out that the union had obtained the last wage increase the men had received.

Burks estimated the increase o from 45 to 60 cents an hour, demanded by the delegation, would increase the city's bill for garbag collection about $28,000 a year.

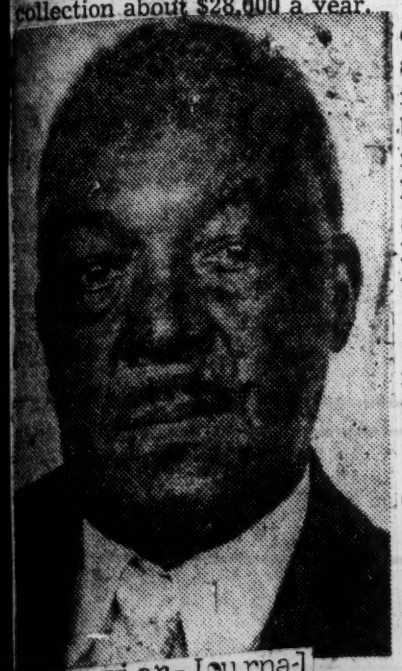
50-Year Pass

In recognition of fifty years' active service, Henry Hansbrough, 68, Negro brakeman, 947 S. 12th, will be presented with a gold pass by the Illinois Central Railroad System at Fifth Street Colored Baptist Church at 7:30 o'clock tonigh

JUL 16 1943

Hansbrough, three brothers and two cousins have put in 153 years of service with Illinois Central. Henry Hansbrough is one of twenty-three fifty-year veterans to be presented with gold passes this year.

Courier-Journal
Louisville. Ky.



Courier-Journal
HENRY HANSBROUGH.
Louisville. Ky.

Brakeman To Be Given

The War Labor Board Corrects An Injustice

The War Labor Board stands upon indisputably sound ground when it states in a "small but significant" ruling that there is no justification for wage differentials based upon race and color. That there was need for such a ruling shows how unequally the country is co-ordinating the theory and practice of equal pay for equal work. In many industries both theory and practice are well established and Negroes and white men alike receive pay based solely upon the work they do. But in other instances, as the ruling in the case of the Texas plant shows, old injustices still linger and must be cured by specific action.

JUN 8 1943

It is by coincidence that the issue of THE COURIER-JOURNAL which carried this news contained also the complaint of a local group of Negro citizens against a similar anomaly affecting them in the field of civic services. This is because on the local scale we have remedied inequities about as unevenly as they are being cared for nationally. Actually some progress has been made both toward improvement of trade school facilities for Negroes here and the provision of a training school for Negro nurses. But it is not particularly to our credit that we have been far more slow in providing these things for our Negro population than we have in assuring them to white citizens.

But to the impatient in both races we should like to reiterate a conviction expressed here before: That the important point is the recognition, nationally and locally, of our shortcomings as a democracy. So long as this recognition obtains in the nation and its communities, the linger ng inequities of wages and opportunities will one by one be obliterated. It is not to our credit that they still exist, but at least we can claim that their existence is acknowledged, not condoned, and that, step by step, we are curing them.

JUN 6 1943

Hires Negro Staff to End Labor Shortage

Pittsburgh Courier

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Aug. 5—(ANP)—Owners of the Fulton Fish market here have found a solution for the extreme shortage of competent help. Twenty-five Negro girls, a complete staff, have been employed as cashiers, clerks and stenographers, setting a precedent in this city. The market is located in a completely white neighborhood, and is one of the largest in the city.

AUG 7 1943

Kentucky Fish Market Hires Negro Staff

Journal and Guide

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — (ANP) — Owners of the Fulton Fish Market here have found a solution for the extreme shortage of competent help. Twenty-five Negro women, a complete staff, have been employed as cashiers, clerks and stenographers, setting a precedent in this city.

AUG 7 1943

The market is located in a completely white neighborhood and is one of the largest in the city.

Norfolk, Virginia

35g-1943
Elizabethton, Tenn.
Daily Star
Aug. 18. 1943.

Louisiana

Southern Negro Fills The Manpower Bill

By JOSEPH C. GOODWIN
AP Features

NEW ORLEANS — Manpower shortages in war industries hold no terrors for the rapidly expanding shipyards and airplane plants in this southern center for production of instruments of destruction and war transportation.

In the words of George W. Rappleyea, dynamic assistant to Andrew Jackson Higgins, south-ern pioneer in "assembly line" ship-building: "The southern Negro population forms a great untapped reservoir of manpower. Negroes are anxious to help in the war effort. They make good workmen, and we now have approximately 1300 of them in our plants."

Consolidated-Vultee, beginning production of giant flying boats for combatting the submarine menace, also has recognized the nearness of a valuable supply of labor.

"We expect to employ 20 per cent Negro labor when we reach full production," says William D. McAdams, director of public relations. "We will use both men and women, and those showing particular aptitude will be given an opportunity for special schooling in skilled operations in the aircraft industry."

Both Mr. McAdams and Mr. Rappleyea see an added expediency in utilizing labor already available in preference to attempting to bring in labor from other sections of the country.

"In the first place," says Mr. Rappleyea, "the rest of the country is short of war workers now, and, in the second place, the southern Negro—and there are 150,000 of them in the city of New Orleans alone — already is here and has place to live. That eliminates the housing shortage."

Among Negroes employed by the Higgins industries many already are skilled workmen and others are being trained. Among the trades followed by Negroes in the company's shipyards and plane plant are:

Bricklayers, painters, carpenters and carpenter helpers, welders, cement workers, and foremen over Negro construction gangs building landing barges and cargo boats.

And New Orleans plants have no "race" troubles. Negro and white workers have separate canteens and comfort facilities and work primarily on different projects.

In the words of one industrialist: "The Negro is a good American. He wants to help win the war. He is completely loyal and has no past or present associations with any foreign country. He is one of a 13,000 000 minority and he certainly is needed in the war effort. If the country did not make full use of this ready pool of man power, it would constitute sabotage of the war effort."

Defender Chicago, Ill

Railroad Agrees To Pay Demands Of Negro Union

WASHINGTON. (ANP) — Wage increases and contributing factors will give 225 firemen, brakemen and yard men on the Louisiana and Arkansas Railroad roughly $100,000 as a result of the agreement signed Friday afternoon between the carrier and the Association of Colored Railway Trainmen and Locomotive Firemen. The announcement was made by Joseph C. Waddy, counsel for the union.

35g-1943

Maryland



"BETWEEN MAY, 1942, AND JANUARY, 1943, NEGRO EMPLOYMENT IN BALTIMORE'S PRINCIPAL WAR PLANTS INCREASED EIGHTY FIVE PER CENT."

MAY 23 1943 .....NEWS ITEM

Md.

Alston OWI

"A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION!!"

Durham, N. C. Sun
June 2, 1943

Negro Women Needed

A representative of a firm in Elton, Md., will be in the local United States Employment Office tomorrow to interview Negro women who are interested in filling a critical shortage in the firm. A wage of 60 cents an hour will be paid with time and a half over 40 hours per week. Transportation will be furnished free to applicants accepted for the work, and board and lodging at the destination will be provided at a nominal price. Only Negro women over 18 years will be considered, it was announced.

Interpreter for B.-O. Gets a Porter's Pay

D.H.S. Grad Doesn't Want to Be White, but Admits Color Robs Him of Job

BALTIMORE

Theodore Bowen, 21-year-old employee of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, speaks three foreign languages fluently and acts as impromptu interpreter for the Travelers' Aid Bureau at Camden Station.

Bowen, Douglass High School graduate, who has complete mastery of French and Spanish grammar and dialect and German grammar and script, aids the bureau by giving information to the many non-English-speaking travelers stopping at the terminal.

Color Holds Him Back

Employed as a cleaner by the B. and O., Bowen says he is irked because the railroad won't advance him to a job as train announcer or gateman, for which he says he is qualified.

For more than forty years these jobs have been manned by whites and company officials refuse to budge from that tradition, Bowen asserts.

Doesn't Want to Be White

There is but one thing that Bowen is interested in letting the public know about, other than his linguistic ability, and that is that he is distinctly colored. He says that white people regard him with a mixture of incredulity and awe and some want to take it for granted that he is white.

Since the Travelers' Aid Society established its agency at the Camden Station, Bowen has helped so many foreigners unravel themselves that he now has no conception of how many.

He has aided Spanish and Portuguese sailors, officers and sailors of the Fighting Free French Navy, Free French soldiers and Haitian Government officials.

He supplemented all of this by taking three courses at Morgan State College which he entered after graduating from Douglass in 1939, but was forced to quit in his sophomore year because of financial difficulties.

His mother, Mrs. Catherine Bowen, lives in Brooklyn. He has two brothers, Henry, Jr., of New York and Meldenardo, and one sister, Juanita.



THEODORE BOWEN
Cites Case of Mexican

"The most striking and peculiar case I have run into is that of a Mexican soldier stationed at Fort Meade," Bowen relates. "Although he can understand a bare minimum of English, he can't speak a word of it, nor give any English responses. He is trained for the army with English-speaking people."

While interpreting for two Free French soldiers, Albert Arthur and Jean Victeur of Martinique, Bowen cultivated a friendship with them and recently had them as guests at his home in Brooklyn, Md.

Bowen learned Spanish from his father, Henry W. Bowen, Sr., a shoe repairman of 515 Presstman Street, who is of Cuban extraction. He acquired conversational French from a group of Parisian children living near his home in Brooklyn.

Taught German by Germans

When he was 15 he worked in a grocery store operated by Germans and when they discovered his ability to speak French, they taught him German, including script and grammar.

Justice Dept. Probes 'Work-or-Jail' Law

Investigating Possible Violation of U. S. Peonage Statutes

PM New York, N. Y.

The Justice Dept. is investigating the enforcement of Maryland's so-called work-or-jail law to ascertain whether Federal statutes against peonage and involuntary servitude have been violated.

The inquiry was begun on the complaint of the Workers Defense League which cited the case of Jasper Merrill, 40-year-old Negro, who was jailed at Berlin, Md., for refusing a job and then paroled to the manager of a private company who had caused his arrest.

Magistrate F. A. Culver, at Berlin, was quoted as saying that Merrill would be committed to the State House of Correction for 90 days if he quit the job or shifted to other work during the parole period.

The statute, which is really a work-or-jail law was passed by the Maryland legislature last Spring and has been adopted by 14 Maryland counties. It provides that an unemployed able-bodied male who

WARNING

The Following Law Is In Effect

NOW

In Anne Arundel County

House Bill 476, Acts 1943

If any person or persons shall be found not to be working at some USEFUL OCCUPATION during any day or part of any day (except for his Sabbath Day, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and FINED up to ONE HUNDRED ($100.00) or IMPRISONED Thirty (30) Days in Jail. And upon a conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction on a second offense may be FINED up to ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS ($1,000.00) or IMPRISONED in Jail or House of Correction for a period of One (1) Year.

This Law Applies To Any Male Person Over The Age Of SIXTEEN YEARS [16]

Violators of work or fight requirement will be prosecuted to full extent of law.

JOHN H. SOURES, Chief of Police

MARVIN I. ANDERSON, State's Attorney

This poster was torn from a telephone pole in Anne Arundel County, Md., where the "work or jail" law is religiously enforced. The text is inaccurate and summarizes the provisions of a bill that was shelved. The law actually provides that an able-bodied man who refuses work at "prevailing wages" may be jailed for six months, fined $500 or both.

In a test case at Baltimore last week, attorneys for the Defense Committee for the Protection of Foreign Born and the pro-League of Women Voters failed to get the constitutional test it desired because a Baltimore judge who said he had known Nelson Blades, 27, for one year and had never known him to be sentenced to six months in jail, fined $500 or both for insufficient evidence. Blades, who joined the Army the day after Pearl Harbor and was discharged last July because of a police chief's testimony, was fined the maximum term that could have been passed on such scanty testimony.

Racial Harmony Restored At Maryland War Plant

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 12—Workers, Negro and white, were back on their jobs at the Bethlehem Steel Shipbuilding company at Sparrows Point, Md., this week after several days of walkouts and negotiations involving a training course in riveting set by the company.

The training course has been reopened on its original basis—available to all regardless of race, creed or color.

The settlement was put into operation when the union involved—International Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers (IUMSW-CIO)—the company and the workers themselves reached an agreement with the aid of Clarence Mitchell, representative of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices and Julius M. Gardner, regional representative of the War Manpower Commission.

VOTES FOR BROAD POLICY

The executive board of the union—Local 33—met and voted for reopening of the riveting school on a non-discriminatory basis after two six-man committees of Negro and white workers had failed, in three days conferring, to reach agreement on the question.

The company, which had opened the school a week ago and had closed it down under pressure from white workers, promptly launched the course again and Monday Negroes were being trained.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Painted 16 Houses



MRS. GLADYS TAYLOR, of the 800 block of Vine Street, who painted all the woodwork on 16 of the 67 houses in her block and helped other residents to paint their houses. She is one of the outstanding workers in the AFRO's clean block drive which ends September 1.

12 Mailwomen Are Appointed

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

BALTIMORE— (ANP)— Marking the first time in history that women have been used in this capacity, 12 colored women have been appointed by the local post office department as letter carriers.

Employed on temporary civil service basis the women have been assigned to the Druid Hill substation and work territory adjacent to the station.

Neale Sibley, white, postmaster, said that the women were employed because of the acute shortage of manpower facing his postoffice.

Defender
Chicago, Ill

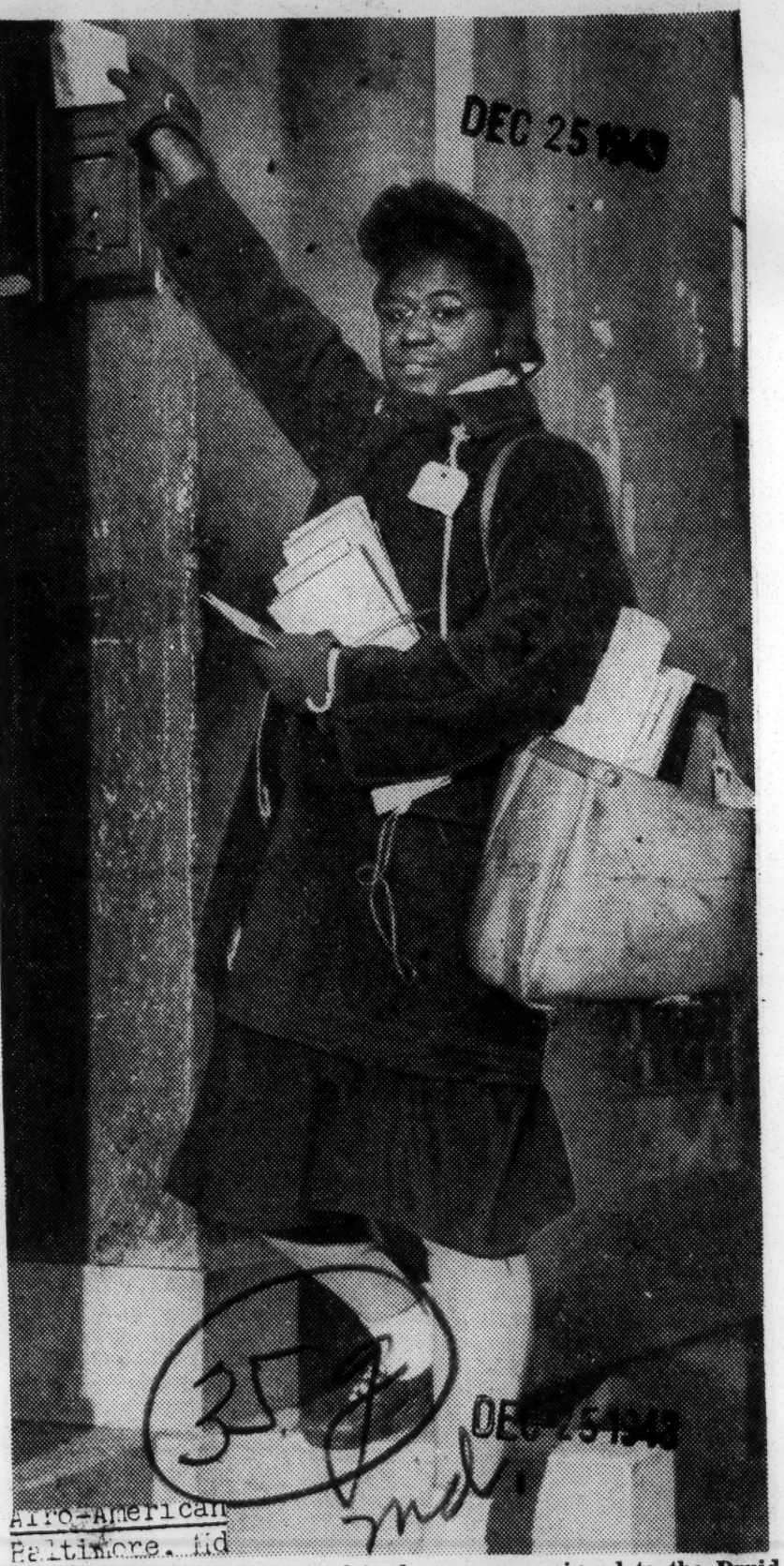
Hire Mailwomen In Baltimore; They're Colored!

BALTIMORE—(ANP)—Marking the first time in history that women have been used in this capacity, 12 colored women have been appointed by the local post office department as letter carriers.

Employed on temporary civil service basis the women have been assigned to the Druid Hill substation and work territory adjacent to the station.

Neale Sibley, white, postmaster, said that the women were employed because of the acute shortage of manpower facing his postoffice.

One of Twelve Women Mail Carriers



Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Mrs. Ethel W. Jackson, one of twelve women assigned to the Druid Hill sub-station as a mail carrier, is shown making her rounds. The women were recently appointed by the Post Office Department, marking the first time that they have been used in mail carrying jobs in Baltimore. Mrs. Jackson's husband is a member of the Merchant Marine.—

35g-1943

Massachusetts

Appointed Foreman in Boston Post Office

BOSTON, July 22—(ANP)—Promotion of Robert L. Merritt, Jr., from special clerk to foreman in the Boston post office has just been approved by Postmaster Gen. Frank C. Walker.

35g-1943

Detroit Bus Driver

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.



DETROIT, Michigan—Mrs. Lois Wright, who is shown here is one of the first of Detroit's women bus drivers. She is smartly dressed in a uniform of powder blue consisting of trousers, jacket and jaunty cap.

Jan 30, 1943

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Two Projects Built By Colored Architect

OCT 23 1943

YPSILANTI, Mich.—(ANP)—The two housing projects located here for the accommodation of war workers at the nearby Ford Motor Company Willow Run Plant, were designed and engineered by the colored architect, Hilyard R. Robinson, of Washington, D. C. Both projects were financed and built by the Federal Public Housing authority.

Michigan

No Labor Shortage in Detroit; Plenty of Negroes Available

The Call Kansas City, Mo.

APR 30 1943

By ROBERT CRUMP

DETROIT.—(ANP)—The much discussed—but certainly misleading—labor shortage in the Detroit area which has resulted in the city fathers waiving the one-year residence clause to allow for importing labor from all parts of the country and Mexico to work in industrial plants here, clashes severely with facts and figures recently compiled through a survey by an authoritative research source.

APR 30 1943

Even in the face of a critical housing shortage which has caused many white families who migrated here from other parts to suffer severely through the winter the industrialists still beckon to white labor, particularly from the South.

APR 30 1943

There is an abundance of Negro labor here both skilled and unskilled eager for jobs. The figures show that at present there are 40,000 Negroes with homes eager to work in war industry, yet they are barred from work because of social prejudice.

Certain employment restrictions and a seeming determination that the burden of unemployment, as far as skilled jobs are concerned, must rst upon the Negro until all employable whites are at work, are fostered by various corporations.

The Call

More than 2,000 Negro women have been trained for war jobs this year, with 5,000 men trained and qualified for skilled and semi-skilled jobs. While men are gradually edging in many of the factories as skilled artisans, the majority are hired as common labor with only a small chance of being upgraded.

Kansas City, Mo.

As to the women, a mere handful, as compared to the 10,000 available, have been placed and in most instances have met with rebuffs, strikes, fights and all manner of unpleasantness in order to make them quit their jobs with scarcely any help or consideration from management.

APR 30 1943

Then to add insult to injury the War Relations administration announced that 500 Japanese-Americans from the government camps on the west coast will be brought into this state to work as skilled technical workers.

APR 30 1943

It is said that one agriculture association had requested 700 of these people while one of the big cannery concerns seeks an addi-600. A spokesman for the WRA with the offices in one of the big downtown buildings has said: "Once they have been relocated and establishd in a community, the Japanese-Americans have all the rights and prerogatives of citizens."

An official of the UAW-CIO remarked: "It is suicidal in terms of the war effort to invite people to travel thousands of miles to uncertain housing conditions to work in plants and at the same time ignore thousands of citizens who are so eager to work."

The above facts are well known to the War Manpower commission, the FEPC and the army and navy Procurement setups here. But according to members of the labor committee of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People "the Negro's head may be bloody but it is still unbowed," and he will continue to fight with all his resources

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Old Minnesota Firm Employs First Negro

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.—(ANP) — The Minneapolis Knitting works, one of the oldest firms of this city, has for the first time in its history initiated the practice of Negro employment.

Upon the recommendation of the Minneapolis Urban League, one worker, Mrs. Daisy Randolph, was recently employed in the capacity of matron.

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

LIFT JIM CROW ON ALASKA HIGHWAY

SEP 11 1943

ST. PAUL, Minn., Sept. 9 — (ANP)—S. Vincent Owens, executive secretary of the St. Paul Urban league, announced Wednesday that discriminatory barriers against Negro applicants for the Alaska highway project have been removed. For the past year, Negro workers who wanted to work on the Alsaka highway were faced with unbelievable difficulties in securing employment on this project.

Starkville Miss News
June 24, 1943.

SCHOOL TO TRAIN COLORED WAITERS

First Classes Will Start On Monday Morning In Stark Hotel

The Starkville High School in cooperation with the State Board of Vocational Education is offering a class for the training of colored waiters.

Many local restaurants and dining rooms are sending waiters to this class. Other food handling establishments are welcome to send waiters if they are interested.

There is no cost to the individual or to the community for this course. It is a service made possible by the distributive education department of the State Vocational Board.

Mrs. Susan Crarner, instructor for this work in the state, will conduct the class.

The class begins Monday, June 17, at 10 a. m. in the dining room of the Stark Hotel and will continue daily at that hour for two weeks. A second division of the class may meet from 3 to 4 in the afternoon. Details for this second class will be worked out at the first meeting to be held Monday morning at 10 o'clock.

Mississippi Has Only Woman Train Caller In Nation

MERIDIAN, Miss. — (ANP) — The distinction of being America's only woman train caller, and in of all places, Mississippi, goes to strong-lunged, beaming Mrs. Susie T. Glover, who has held the job at the union station here since 1929.

Mrs. Glover began her career 25 years ago, doing odd jobs and cleaning up the station's carpenter shop. It was by accident in 1929, that she fell heir to the job of calling the trains. When the regular caller became ill, the station master casually asked Mrs. Glover not to let anyone miss a train.

She immediately got copies of all schedules and began memorizing them. Soon she was asked to "call it" regularly.

Today, her voice is as much a part of the familiar station noises as the hissing and clanging of the big locomotives. In her long experience, Mrs. Glover has become well known to the presidents of the Southern and G. M. and O. railroads, calls both of them her "right-hand friends."

Use Of War Prisoners Protested

Pittsburgh, PA
Courier

MEMPHIS, Tenn., July 8—Marvin Jones, recently appointed War Food Administrator, had before him a protest against the use of prisoners of war to break down wages and other conditions of employment on American farms.

H. L. Mitchell, general secretary of the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union, charged that Italian war prisoners were being employed chopping cotton on a Mississippi delta plantation when there was a surplus of farm labor available locally.

35g-1943

Missouri

Colored Air Plant Worker Win First Commendation

Tribune Philadelphia, Pa.

MAY 15 1943

James Harold Herman, who was an automobile mechanic for 12 years before he was employed by the St. Louis (Mo.) plant of the Curtiss-Wright Corporation, was the first Curtiss Negro production worker to win a Letter of Commendation from the Labor-Management Committee of the plant for an idea to speed up production, the War Production Headquarters announced this week.

Herman, 31, was born in St. Louis. Before he went to work at Curtiss he attended the Curtiss-Wright training school for three weeks, then was assigned to riveting work.

He now operates a general riviter, used in "gang" riveting the front and rear spars which are the long lateral braces in an airplane wing, and which support the wing ribs over which the wing skin is formed. This machine sets approximately nine rivets in a single stroke.

MAY

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Local Attorney Fights For Train Workers

Joseph C. Waddy, local attorney and national general chairman of Colored Railway Trainmen and Locomotive Firemen, returned from Kansas City, Mo., last week where hearings were held by the National Mediation Board on why the Louisiana and Arkansas Railroads do not pay Negro workmen equal salaries for equal work.

The hearings began June 2 and ended June 25. The campaign for equalization of salaries began December 5, 1942. At this time the railroads were cited to show cause why Negroes should not receive the same pay as whites for the same amount of work. The railroads attempted to intimidate the Negro workmen by telling them if they continued to clamor for equal pay they would be replaced by whites.

JUL 10 1943

At the June meeting several proposals were offered the railroads, but they refused all and attempted to make a compromise which the Association felt it could not accept in principle. The Association was mindful of the fact that it would cost the railroads about $225,000 to put the equalization plan into effect and agreed to permit them to pay 15 per cent now, onehalf of the balance in 4 months and the balance in eight months. The railroads refused this proposal.

After it was found that the hearings were not getting anywhere near a solution they were suspended with the understanding that they would come on at a later date. Attorney Waddy told the Tribune that he was going to continue the fight to get the salaries standardized and if the mediation board did not reschedule the hearing he was going to appeal to an Emergency Railroad Labor Panel and show that there had been a violation of President Roosevelt's executive order 9172.

During the hearing the WLB handed down a decision in the favor of the Negro workers of the Southport Petroleum Company, Texas City, Texas, which ruled that the oil company would have to pay equal salaries. This decision was a ray of hope for the trainmen, but the mediation board refused to make a decision.

JUL 10 1943

The pay of the trainmen was 40 per cent below standard for a long time, but Mr. Waddy has been able to cut the differential to 30 per cent. He plans to continue the fight until the men have received equal pay.

Supt. Of P.O. Station

OCT 16 1943



Argus
St. Louis, Mo.

Thos. A. Jefferson

Among those who have been promoted to high and responsible positions in the local Post Office is Thomas A. Jefferson, Superintendent of Anchor Station, 2840 Franklin avenue.

When our present Postmaster, Rufus W. Jackson, came into office he found no supervisors of our group in the St. Louis Post Office; all of our group was confined to the work room floors of the Main Post Office. He held several meetings with the organizations of the colored workers and assured him that in his opinion the colored employees, out of mere justice and fair play, to say nothing of their loyalty and efficiency, were entitled to greater consideration than had been given them in the past. He also assured them he would do something about it.

A few months later, in April 1935, he transferred Thomas A. Jackson to Anchor Station as a special clerk in the Mailing Division. He was the first of our group to be transferred to a regular classified P. O. Station in St. Louis as a clerk. In September Jefferson was made acting superintendent of the station and in December of the same year he was appointed superintendent of the station. He was among the first, if not the first of our race in the country to be placed in full charge of a classified Post Office Station as Anchor. This station ranks about sixth of the forty-two classified stations in the city, with receipts of $135,000 annually and over seven hundred Postal Savings Accounts and transacts all forms of postal business maintained at the Main Post Office.

Anchor Station's personel consists of superintendent, six clerks, eleven carriers and a cleaner. Efficiency and courtesy are stressed at this station and the public appreciates this service and the patrons are from all parts of the city.

Postmaster Jackson later appointed from our group a clerk to the Webster Groves Station and detailed a clerk to the Progress and Merchant Stations. Two messengers were appointed to the executive division, a foreman in charge of the division of equipment and a forelady in appointed many special clerks charge of the cleaners. He has among our group which today places them in the $600 salary grade.

Postmaster Jackson's efforts toward our Pine Street YMCA, financially and morally, are greatly known and appreciated by all. We expect further considerations at any time in the near future. Quote: 'Be noble, and the nobleness that lies in other men, sleeping, but never dead, will rise in majesty to meet thine own.'

Anchor Station carries an ample supply of War Bonds and Stamps and urges everyone to buy one and to keep it, for cashing bonds after sixty days is only a hindrance to the government and a cost of $400 for every bond certified and cashed. Our economic status after the war depends on what we do with our earnings now.

Colored To Man Telephone Office

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga

DEC 22 1943

ST. LOUIS—(A N P)—The new branch office of the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, which will open here within a few months will have an all colored staff, the company announced this week.

While declining to specify the number of colored employes of the new branch office, a company spokesman revealed that the office will receive payments of bills, handle transfers and orders for service and perform some accounting duties.

Selection of personnel will begin sometime in January, the promises have been vacated by the present tenant and the quarters remodeled, the official said.

DEC 22 1943

35g-1943

New Jersey



SEP 25 194

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

FLANKED by U. S. Army Ordnance Department officers, Edward Harris, third from left, Assistant Greasemaker at the Pittsburgh plant of the Standard Oil Company (N.J.), New Jersey, watches Dr. John Zimmer, extreme right, Division Head, Standard Oil Development Company Laboratories, demonstrate how lubricants are made for the armed forces. Along with co-workers from the Standard Oil greasemaking plants at Pittsburgh and Baltimore, Harris was honored at a dinner at the Union League, Philadelphia, for the part they played in producing in record time thousands of pounds of secret grease needed urgently overseas by General Dwight Eisenhower. Working ceaselessly for more than 24 hours at the grease kettles of the Standard Oil plant, Harris helped fulfill the emergency order hours ahead of schedule. Shown, left to right are: Lieut. Col. Arthur Seiler, Army Ordnance Dept.; Major Albert W. Gilmer, Army Ordnance Dept.; Harris; Cloyde Daniels, Chemist, Pittsburgh plant; and Lieut I. Alburry Fleitus, Army Ordnance Dept.

35g-1943
Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

Negroes Work In Every Branch Of Subway System

FEB 6 - 1943

By NEIL SCOTT

NEW YORK, Feb. 4—The success of the Transport Workers Union, CIO, is the simple story of co-operation. Their story should be learned and put into practice by millions of other Americans. Democracy must be made to function for the protection of all its citizens just as a union like the Transport Workers' protects all its members.

The Transport Workers' Union tolerates no discrimination in its ranks. Negroes work in every branch of the New York City subway system as clerks, towermen, repairmen and porters. The union has no rules which keep members from associating together in the crewrooms. Members of all races and religions use the same recreation halls and meet in the same assemblies.

AMAZING EMPLOYMENT RATE

There are 32,000 workers in the New York subway system. There are three major systems included in the New York subway system: the BMT, IRT and Independent. They carry to and from the business centers of greater New York daily, several million workers and shoppers. The safety of the hundreds of millions of people who travel on the subways yearly depends on these employees.

Were these men not cognizant of the tremendous responsibility which rests on their shoulders in these serious times of national and international crisis, were they not interested in the welfare and conscious of the dependence of millions of their fellow citizens upon them, it would be relatively simple to call a strike which would close down indefinitely many offices and plants busily engaged in supplying vital material to defeat the Axis.

FEB 6 1943

Such an occurrence would be a national tragedy and every citizen in New York would feel its effect. Therefore, it is up to the citizens of this city, state and nation do something about this deplorable condition of the New York subway employees whose misfortune is threatening our common destiny. It is up to you to see that these loyal Americans are given a fair chance to make a living.

All citizens are invited to attend the public rally at Madison Square Garden Tuesday, February 9. President Philip Murray will be the speaker and topnotch entertainment will be provided.

Let the "Atlantic Charter" live here.

New York Age
New York, N. Y

9 Negroes Working Out Of Home Office Of Pepsi-Cola Co.

LONG ISLAND CITY, N. Y.—Several years ago Pepsi-Cola broke into the news with the announcement that Herman T. Smith, well known race promotion and former newspaper man, had been appointed to an important post in the company's national sales organization.

JAN 30 1943

In spite of the war and general business curtailment, Mr. Smith's work in the company has increased and additional Negroes have been employed by the parent Pepsi-Cola Company and its independent bottlers. Today, in addition to Mrs. Smith, six other Negro men and two young ladies have been employed in the national office of the company and 23 Negro salesmen have been employed by the company's independent bottlers scattered throughout the country.

Negroes in Pepsi-Cola's national offices now include Herman T. Smith as [illegible] Miss Jeanette Maund from Hampton Institute, Miss Marion O Bond from Lane College, Allen C. McKellar from South Carolina State College, and Phillip Kane from Morgan College, all in national sales; Thomas C. Richter from Howard University, Thomas C. Livingston, Lincoln (Pa.) University, Joseph Christian, former advertising manager of Amsterdam Star News and People's Voice, and Attorney Ed Dudley, former New York State Assistant Attorney General, who are doing a special work in Army Camps, of a morale-building nature, sponsored by Pepsi-Cola Company.

JAN 30 1943

Mr. Livingston and Mr. Kane are now members of our armed forces. In addition to these Negroes in white collar bracket, several hundred additional Negroes have been employed in many Pepsi-Cola plants.

New York

Bloomingdale's Was Wrong--That's That

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

By Eugene Gordon

Miss Louise Atkinson, whom the word "beautiful" accurately characterizes but does not begin to describe, is among several young Negro women now employed on service counters at Bloomingdale's department store. Her job is in the store's "Lay-Away-Plan" department, a section of the service desk on the sixth floor. She discusses with customers any differences over purchases they made deposits on and laid away but, for one or another reason, did not finish buying.

Miss Atkinson is a new member of Local 3, United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employes of America, CIO, the local which, under the recent leadership of Eugene Ellis, did more than any other department store union in New York to get Negroes jobs on counters.

APR 27 1943

Mr. Ellis is a Negro. He is now in the United States Coast Guard.

Miss Atkinson tells the **Daily Worker** that she gets along splendidly with the customers who must consult her. She likewise gets along well with her working companions. There is no reason why she shouldn't, one would judge, seeing that she is not only beautiful and cultured but has a personality that intrigues. The question which interested the **Daily Worker** in its interview with Miss Atkinson and Local 3 leaders was whether or not Negro workers in general get along well with the customers and with the white employes.

PHONY ARGUMENTS

The management of stores like Bloomingdale's have persisted for years in declaring that their hesitancy in hiring Negro salesgirls was only that the customers, the white employes objected. Bloomingdale's local of the Department Store Union has proved that neither of these arguments is valid today. It is now mainly a question of the availability of qualified Negro workers, according to Samuel Lewis and James Vaughan, business agent and business manager, respectively, of the local.

Mr. Lewis says that a Negro girl did not have to have the beauty and natural charm of Miss Atkinson to get a counter job. All she had to have was the ability to hold the job—and, of course, the opportunity.

Opportunities are multiplying and the union is taking advantage of them to get Negro workers placed. Mr. Lewis said:

"There is a good opportunity for immediate employment of all classifications, owing to the large turnover in both male and female categories of help. These jobs must be filled and there is no question that qualified Negro people will be hired."

The turnover referred to comes as a result of workers going into war industries.

He said that education of the union members was the cause of a change in their attitude toward Negro workers. A few short years ago a group of white girls forced a Negro girl out of an office job at Bloomingdale's. The educational campaign carried on by the union through its Victory Committee (really a labor-management committee), by forums and by new-members' classes, has now made such an incident impossible, Mr. Lewis said.

There are about 100 Negro employes in Bloomingdale's. Total number of employes is about 2,000. The union is striving to bring them all into its folds.

APR 27 1943

Win Jobs for Negro Chauffeurs in Jamaica

MAY 1 1943

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

A victory for democracy was won in Jamaica, Queens County, when the Jamaica Bus Co. agreed to engage 15 Negro chauffeurs, the Jamaica Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced today.

MAY 1 1943

One Negro chauffeur, Wiley Lampert of 164-12-107th Ave., Jamaica vicinity, has been engaged and has worked a week and 14 more men are needed, Mercedes Gilbert publicity chairman for the local NAACP, stated.

The agreement, it was said, was worked out in a meeting in the company's offices, 114-02 New York Boulevard, on April 24, with John Brown, president of Jamaica Buses, Inc., and Harry Weissmann, super-

Miss Gilbert said that applicants for the remaining 14 positions are required to be no older than 42 years of age, to have a chauffeur's license, and a high school education.

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

One-Man Jimcro Protest Wins Out

MAY 1 1943

Frances Lee Brown, 370 Manhattan ave., senior heavy duty truck driver at the Army Air Freight Terminal, La Guardia Air Field, member of a mixed Negro and white work crew was going to be a change in the set-up in favor of jimcro crews.

On May 17, Brown wrote a letter to the commanding officer, telling him that the mixed crews were getting along together, and that any switch to a segregated set-up would be contrary to Presidential Order 8802, but would also be against all principles of American democracy.

MAY 1 1 1943

Mrs. Grace Dunlap Sevier, chairman of the NAACP, was contacted by Lt. McGinnis for his letter. More than that, the army official spokesman for the community, assisted by Dr. Judge A. Thompson and commended for the attorney Wm. T. Garvin, and others said the mixed crews would continue working together just as they are now.

MAY 29 1943

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

Hire Four Girls At Constable's; May Use More

MAR 20 1943

For the first time in its history Arnold Constable, Fifth ave department store, has placed Negro employes on its payroll. The industrial division of the New York Urban League announced this week that it had been successful in placing four stockgirls in the store.

MAR 20 1943

The young women started work on March 11 and the industrial office stated that it considered their employment as an opening wedge to further hiring of Negroes by the company. There is a definite possibility that if the present group of young women may be advanced to salesgirls of their records prove to be worthy of it.

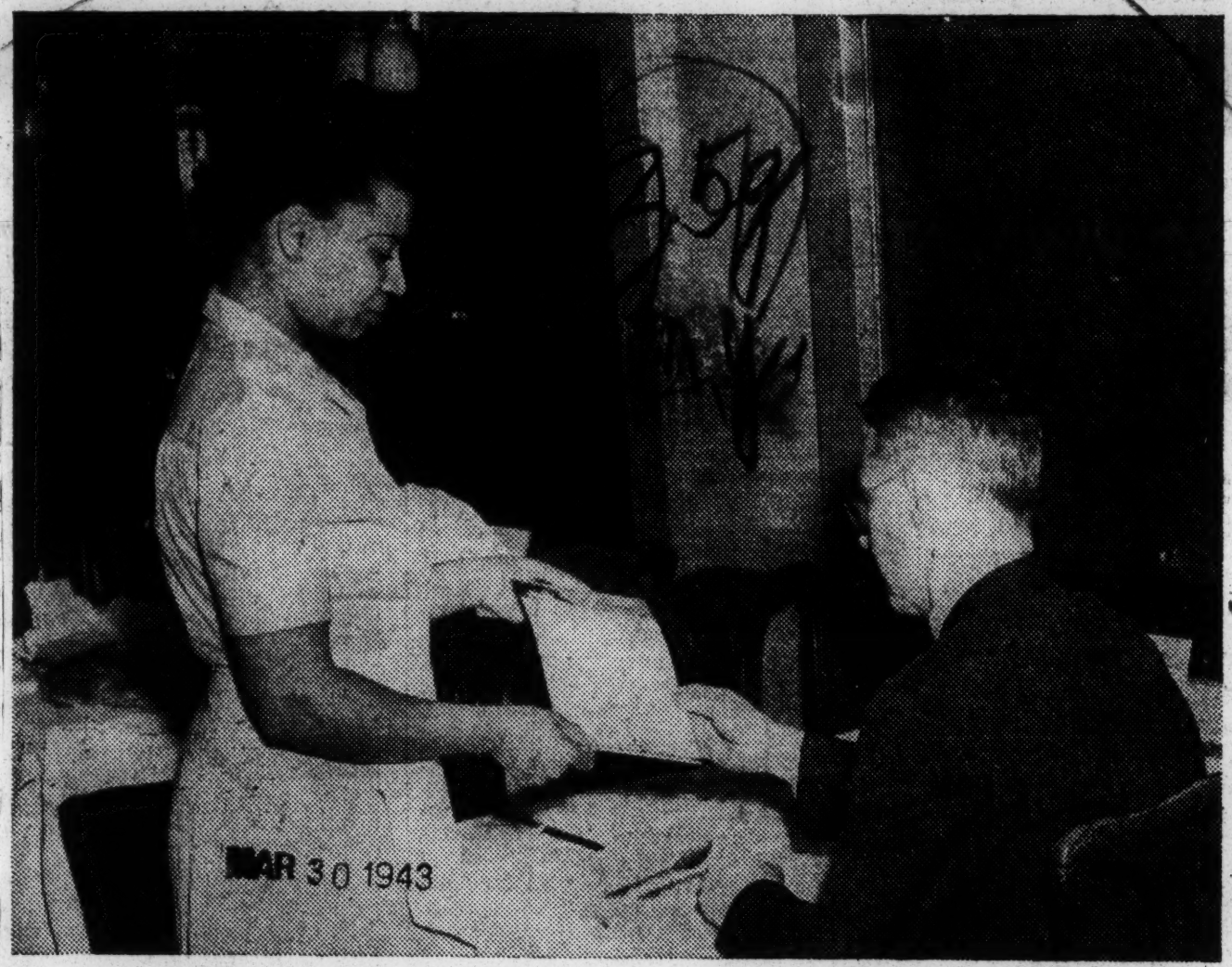
MAR 20

Although the names of two of the new stockgirls were not immediately available the names of the other two were disclosed. They are Lucille Crocker of 120 W 123 st and Catherine Thompson of 1 W 131 st.

If there are any other young women who would like to discuss possible employment at Arnold Constable they should contact the Urban League Industrial Secretary, LeRoy Jeffries at the League offices, 202 W 136 st.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Another Sign Of Changing Labor Scene



MAR 30 1943

MAR 31 1943

MAR 30 1943

NEW YORK.—A white-jacketed waiter no longer presents the menu to dining car passengers aboard Pennsylvania Railroad trains running between New York and Philadelphia. Now that the men have left their jobs to serve in Uncle Sam's armed forces and war plants, women have been called in as replacements. Miss BETTY CARRINGTON shows the menu to a passenger in the dining car at Penn Station just before the train departs for Philadelphia. (Acme.)

Replace Men in Dining Cars



Replacing men as waiters in the dining cars of the Pennsylvania Railroad, are young women, as seen above. These waitresses are on the run between New York and Philadelphia. Those who have begun their runs are Misses Bessie Carrington, Ruth Sawyer, Marion Turner and Gladys Boyd, all of New York City. Colored women employed by the Pennsylvania Railroad now total 1,414 representing an increase of 1000 per cent over February, 1941.

FEB 20 1943

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Hire First N.Y. Woman

MAY 15 1943

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

N. Y. Employs Woman Street Car Operator

MAY 21 1943

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Although 30-year-old Mrs. Edna Hodgson confessed that she has never in her life operated any kind of motor vehicle, New York's Board of Transportation last week employed her as the city's first woman street car operator.

Mrs. Hodgson is one of three Negro women applicants who were sworn in Thursday as motormen at the board's offices. The women will first take a rigorous training course in street car operation before assuming their duties on trolleys in Brooklyn and Queens.

According to William J. Daly, secretary of the board of transportation, 3,850 board employes have gone into military service and another 3,000 have taken jobs which pay more money. Mrs. Hodgson is the wife of Maurice Hodgson, a wholesale grocery employe, and the mother of a 10-year-old daughter.

'Motorman'

MAY 15 1943

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BUFFALO CABS TO HIRE NEGRO DRIVERS

Courier

NEW YORK, July 22—(ANP)—An agreement to abolish the color line in their employment of drivers or maintenance workers was reached by five of the seven taxicab companies in Buffalo last week following a conference with representatives of the Fair Employment Practice committee and the War Manpower commission, it was announced this week by Edward Lawson, acting examiner in charge of the FEPC New York regional office.

JUL 22 1943

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The women will first take a

35g-1943

Situation Is Promising in Integration Of Negroes in War Plants Which Hire Them for Duty in Many Departments

Kansas City Call

Kansas City, Mo.

JUL 23 1943

NEW YORK. — (ANP) — Standing staunchly behind the men behind the guns, Negro women are making history in the steel industry in the Buffalo area. Aided by the Niagara frontier's acute manpower shortage and with the help of fthe New York regional office of the Fair Employment Practice committee, Negro women have broken into fields of employment hitherto traditionally barred to them.

The situation, promising in terms of the integration of Negro women into war industry, is still confronted with a number of internal problems but FEPC representatives are assisting the companies in solving these problems as they arise.

IN MANY DEPARTMENTS

According to Edward Lawson acting examiner in charge of the New York regional FEPC office, one of the outstanding examples of the introduction to Negro women to new types of jobs is at the Bethlehem Steel company's Lackawanna plant, just outside of Buffalo. In this plant Negro women may be found in a number of departments, performing duties which have always before been delegated to men—and doing them well.

They are working in the coke oven department, at the blast furnaces, at the open hearth furnaces, as bricklayer helpers, in the storage yard-machine shop, and in the general yard department.

JUL 23 1943

Negro women comprise about one-third of the total number of women employed at the plant. The company started hiring women earlier this year and from the outset, at the insistence of FEPC representatives, a program of integration was launched.

According to the plant officials, the use of Negro and white women workers on heavy steel mill work has not been all sweetness and light. There have been a few minor clashes, they revealed, but none that was serious.

NOT IN MACHINE SHOP

The task of securing acceptance of Negro women in some of the departments where they have not yet been put to work still remains, according to Lawson. As yet there are no Negro women working in the machine shop, electrical shop or highway specialty shop. The reason for this, say plant officials, is that no Negro women who are qualified for this work have as yet been found. The qualifications for these jobs are somewhat above those for some of the other types of work.

Although white women are working in the forge shop, the general billet yard, the power mills, the laboratory, the storehouse, the accounting department, the garage and as janitresses, there are no non-whites in any of these departments.

JUL 23 1943

Attempts have recently been made by the company to use women as gang leaders, both Negro and white. This venture has not yet met with any too great success, however, because the women, Negro and white, seemed to resent working under the leadership of other women. In most cases those promoted have been returned to their original positions within the gangs.

GIRLS FREQUENT INSPECTIONS

All of the women are provided with the regulation safety clothing and equipment required by plant rules. In addition, the plant's safety department personnel maintains a schedule of frequent inspections. These precautions, together with the natural aptitude displayed by the workers themselves, have resulted in a very low accident record.

Most of the women are housewives, with husbands, sons or other relatives in the armed forces. They were decured through the United States Employment service of the War Manpower commission and through the plant's own employment office. Many of them, in addition to working their regular shifts at the plant, manage to continue to take care of their homes and families without outside help.

JUL 23 1943

Their enthusiasm for this new kind of work is pretty general. Some of them have gone to work because of the need of more money by the family, others because they wanted to get into the war effort themselves, but almost without exception, regardless of the individual reasons for seeking the job, they have proven themselves quick and willing to learn and dependable.

EXCELLENT BEGINNING

"These women," said Lawson, "have made an excellent beginning. Their success in filling war jobs in heavy industry offers firsthand indication of what can be accomplished when the undemocratic hiring restrictions based on race, creed, color or national origin are discarded.

"It is hoped that this company will continue along the lines it is now moving and work toward the full integration of Negro and white female workers in every department. By doing this it can sidestep the Neagara frontier's manpower shortage and continue to turn out the badly needed war material with which we will whip the axis."

New York

No Room for Segregation of Workers at Embarkation Port

afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

NOV 27 1943

Many Employees Are from Dixie; Prefer Hard Work at Port to Low Pay as Domestics in the South

By MABLE ALSTON

NEW YORK—"We have no room for segregation and color distinction here, we have not had it and we won't tolerate it at all," said First Lt. J. H. Ebberheart last week in welcoming a group of women of the press and radio to the ordnance division of a large eastern port of embarkation where hundreds of women of all races are working side by side, the newspaperwomen, who were guests of the War Department, found many workers fresh from the South who told of leaving their homes because of low pay and long hours.

For instance there was Miss Rebecca Bethea, a former domestic worker from Dillon, S.C., "I could make only a very small salary doing housework," she said, "and I wanted to come to New York because I heard of its educational advantages."

Her parents, five brothers and four brothers are now working. She is a sealer and taper at the port and her pay averages 76 cents per hour with time and one-half for overtime.

Wants to Help Beat Hitler

Miss Willie McDaniels, a former domestic worker of Columbia, S.C., left there because she could make only $5 per week for a general housework with no opportunity for advancement. She is now making 76 cents an hour and works eight hours a day.

Mrs. Susie Cordeanis, a former textile worker, has to arise at 5 a.m. to arrive at her work on time but she doesn't mind it at all.

When asked why, she said, "I had to do something to help take the 'hit out of Hitler,' because I have two brothers in the army, Cpl. Christopher and Pvt. Herbert Pikney, the latter at Greenville, S.C., and the corporal overseas."

She also has three cousins in the army and three others in the navy. Mrs. Cordeanis has a 10-year-old daughter who is cared for by her sister.

400 of 10,000 Now Are Colored at Macy's Department Store

afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

NOV 27 1943

Sales Force Is Lily-White; Collectors Wrappers, Stock Clerks and Elevator Opeartors Hired; Chemist in Bureau of Standards

By RICHARD DIER

NEW YORK. — R. H. Macy and Company, one of the largest department stores in America, employs 400 colored workers in various capacities. Its total working force is 10,000.

Nevertheless the racial bars have not been completely lifted. Macy's sales force, numbering several hundred employees, is kept exclusively white. Not one colored person has been hired or trained and broken in as a sales clerk.

This is hard to digest and can't be passed by in a city where the colored people comprise one-tenth of the total population and wield enormous power, even in buying capacity alone.

Hired Before War

In an exclusive AFRO interview, Mr. Byrd of the general manager's office of the company, stated:

"We have always employed colored help at Macy's, even before the war. Our hiring policy has been to get the people with the best qualifications and ability for the jobs that were open.

"They worked here as elevator operators, stock clerks, typist-correspondents, collectors, wrappers and packers. Some are working in the tea room and cafeteria.

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"Our employment figures vary at different times during the year. For instance, on Christmas, we may be employing 16,000, and 600 or more colored."

"No Quota Basis Used

Asked whether a set number of colored were hired for every certain amount of whites, he replied:

"We have no such policy here. There is no discrimination of any sort. I can assure you that all our hiring is according to ability and qualifications. Incidentally, we have even hired a colored chemist in our bureau of standards."

"As far as I can see," he continued, "the time is not far when we shall put them on our sales force. Right now, we are using them on the sales floors as wrappers and packers, which was not done a few years ago.

"Thus they will become familiar with the stock. When they eventually get sales jobs, they'll be familiar with the goods and make excellent sales clerks.

"We are definitely going to continue to employ colored after the war is over. Our present employment policy has nothing to do with the present emergency. Of course, there may be some problem in retaining all new employees when our men in the armed forces return.

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DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

Does New York Do a Good Job in Employing Colored?

Gimbel's Department Store Has 400 Out of Its 4,000 Employees; First Time Colored Man Worked in Warehouse There Was a Near Riot; But Company Insisted and There They Are

By RICHARD DIER

NEW YORK—"The first time we put a colored man to work in the Gimbel's warehouse, we almost had a riot. Our white employees resented his working with them so much that we thought they'd walk out. But, as the weeks passed, they got used to him; and now, we have several colored people working there."

This statement was made by T. J. Fogarty, personnel director of Gimbel Bros., in an exclusive AFRO interview recently.

"In fact," he continued, "there are even some whites who right now resent a colored person's using the same locker room, but there's nothing they can do about it.

Social Worker

"Before I got this job, I was a social worker all my life and I thoroughly understand the problems of the colored people. In working together with whites, it's entirely a matter of integration. And, that's not so easy. There are two things to consider:

One: The question of public acceptance. By this I mean, is the public ready to accept colored men and women in jobs that were formerly filled only by whites?

"Two: Will the whites readily accept them as co-workers and treat them fairly?

"Either of these factors is not simple, and both will take time to come about. What I do know is that great strides have been made in this direction in the past three years, and I'm hopeful for the future.

400 Colored

"Gimbel's has a working force of 3,000 to 4,000 people and of this number at least 400 are colored. Naturally, there has been a great increase in colored employment because of the war.

"They are working as porters, freight elevator operators, stock workers, receiver-checkers, in the warehouse, at the cafeteria counter, and also in semi-clerical work."

Asked whether there were any colored sales people, he said:

"No, we do not employ them in sales jobs. I am not in a position to tell you why. All I can say is that we've never tried them, and I can't say about the company's policy in the future. It's really not up to me. I've got to follow the company's line. There's nothing I can do about it.

Satisfied with Work

"We have been employing colored men and women for many years and we undoubtedly will continue after the war. The store is very much satisfied with their work.

"Of course, there might be an occasional disturbance here and there, like the incident in the warehouse, but generally, we've had no trouble at all with employee relations and no conflict between white and colored.

"We are short of help now, especially with the Christmas holidays coming on, and we can use more colored help in many types of positions. Any people hired now have a good chance of staying on even after the rush is over."

20 Wait for Jobs

I stayed in the employment section in an adjoining building and counted the number of persons waiting for jobs. Of 42, 20 were colored.

One woman told me that she had been waiting for four hours. She had come late in the morning and got a high number from the employment official. Many were before her, and she was still waiting her turn.

After her interview, she told me that she accepted a stock job for $22 a week on the basis of a 5-day, 40-hour week. Another man explained that he turned down a porter's job because the salary was too low.

I attempted to speak to a few elevator operators, but they were afraid to answer, except to say that they were satisfied with their jobs and pay, and intended to stay on after the war.

Lily-White Jobs

My impression of Gimbel's is that it is following the same pattern as Macy's, Woolworth's, and many other department stores in refusing to employ colored sales people, this, despite the recognized shortage of help in the emergency. They will use them in practically every other job, but stop short when it comes to sales.

Mr. Fogarty voiced his employer's policy, not his own, in the interview. By the way he identified the whole problem, I am sure that if it were up to him, he'd lower the racial barrier for sales jobs.

Evidently, his experiences in social work have helped him a good deal. In fact, I'd recommend that every would-be personnel director have a fling at social work.

Of course, it wouldn't hurt Gimbel's executives, either.

Seniority on Jobs

"They will have the seniority for the jobs they left behind. We also have many colored employees who have joined the services, and they too will have first call. Nevertheless, I am sure that it will work out somehow.

"I can safely say that 95 per cent of our colored workers are very efficient and capable. We are satisfied in every way with their services. If there has been any trouble, it has been caused by very few, and the same can be said about our white employees. The number is practically negligible.

"Only those who are holding full-time jobs for the first time cause disruption. For instance, some women who were once domestics, are not used to getting to work on time. They think that lateness doesn't mean anything since they could formerly make up for lost time.

Employees Favor Company

"Naturally, that isn't true at Macy's. The [illegible] where the trouble mostly lies . . . in the question of discipline. On the whole, colored workers are just as efficient and satisfactory as whites."

I spoke to three colored employees who preferred to remain anonymous. Two also believed that Macy's employment policy had undoubtedly loosened up in the past few years, and that it wouldn't be long before the sales staff would include colored workers. They doubted that this would go into effect during the war.

The third employee stated that "employment conditions as Macy's were very good and that there was no discrimination shown in daily contact with workers and management."

He said that "the jobs were pleasant compared to factory work and that they would be worthwhile to hold after the war."

Charles Collier, executive secretary of the City-Wide Citizens' Committee and formerly connected with the industrial relations department of the National Urban League, told me of his work in getting Macy's to "break the ice."

Integration Not Easy

He believes that the company will soon put colored people on its sales staff.

"Of course, the problem of integration is not an easy one," he explained.

Education, he said, isn't the only qualification for a sales job. There were some who had not gone to school with whites and were not used to being with them.

Mr. Collier explained that many times he is asked why a colored person of fair intelligence and a good education has to start on the bottom and work his way up, before getting a sales position, while a white gets the job with much less qualifications.

Collier's answer is always that a colored worker not only has to be as good as a white, but a little better. He must be able to overcome the bias of the white employee and show adaption to the particular surroundings. This is not an easy undertaking.

Disagrees with Policies

Somehow, my visit to R. H. Macy and Company, plus my own personal convictions leave me in disagreement with this organization's policies and Mr. Collier's beliefs.

There is no doubt that Macy's has gone a long way toward lifting racial restrictions in employment.

But the elimination of colored people from its sales staff is not to be overlooked. These are the cream of the jobs and highest-paying positions.

The only way I can explain this backward attitude is that the company feels colored people are not ready or that New York and its great buying public are not ready to accept colored sales clerks.

Theories Wrong

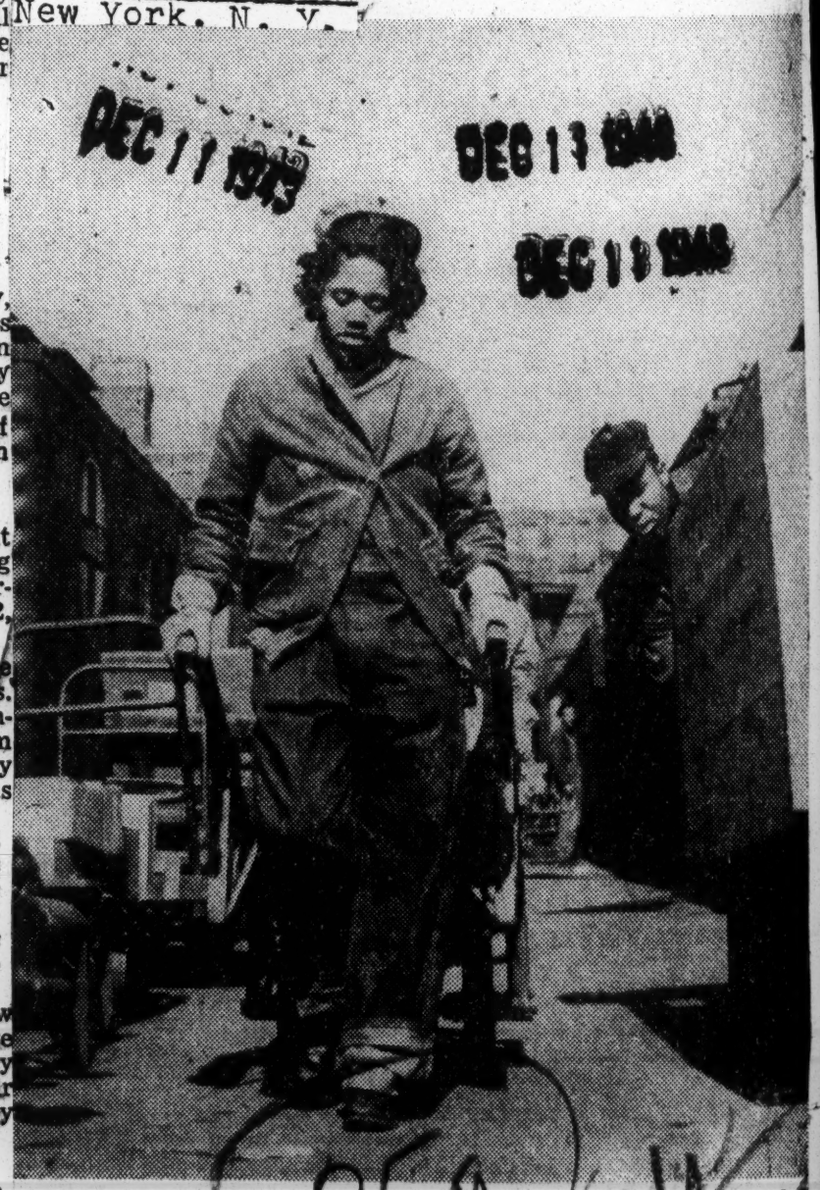
Either of these theories is wrong. First, how can we judge whether they can satisfactorily fill these jobs when they haven't been given the opportunity?

Second, how do we know whether they will be accepted and patronized when they haven't been put on display for the population?

I think Mr. Collier's explanation is a bit far-fetched, if not unfair. Does the colored man have to go out of his way to educate the white man not to hate him or look down on him? Maybe Collier is right. Maybe this is true.

If it is, they [illegible] in repeat my own conviction . . . education for whom? The colored or the white? Who really needs it more?

Working for Victory



One of the millions of American women who have taken up what was formerly regarded as "men's work" in order to help win the war quickly. Many women of this type will take part in New York's first women's war conference, to be held in the Pythian Plaza, today (Saturday) at 10 A.M.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.
DEC 11 1943
DEC 11 1943
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Childs Restaurants Agree to Hire Negroes

Daily Worker NEW YORK, N.Y.
JUL 20 1943

Discrimination in employment by Childs' Restaurants Inc., is on the way out, according to Lorenza F. Davis industrial secretary of the Brooklyn Urban League.

Management of the restaurants which became famous through their window display of pancake-making and notorious among the Negro people for barring them both from jobs and from eating at Childs', recently sat down with officials of the Chain Service Restaurant Employees Union, Local 42, AFL, and members of the industrial department of Brooklyn's Urban League. It had been decided at the conclusion of the conference that Childs would thereafter hire Negro men and women.

"The Mayflower and the Horn and Hardart restaurants and cafeterias, who are being organized by the Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union, AFL, have already hired Negroes as bus, counter, vegetable and automat girls," Mr. Davis said.

He added that the effects of the anti-fascist war "are certainly obvious. Discriminating for years these restaurants "avoided using Negro women in positions where they met the public" and that, at Childs', they were "excluded entirely."

RELUCTANT ATTITUDE

There is, in general, Mr. Davis said, "a widening opportunity for Negro workers." He pointed out however, that the employer in most cases "still exhibits an attitude of reluctance to accept this condition."

"It is, therefore, necessary for the Negro job-seeker to be persistent in demanding work where he knows vacancies exist and for which he knows himself to be qualified."

Mr. Davis added:

"The shipyards of New York and New Jersey which have maintained a pretty fair record of Negro employment, are snatching up all the men they can get and even some women. Most needed are former shipyard workers, men whose trades can be used in ship work (building construction men, painters, carpenters) and laborers.

"The Brewster Aeronautical Corp., one of New York's largest aircraft manufacturers, but with rather a poor record of employing Negroes, is at present hiring large numbers of women upon their completing a short training with the course. The Bulova Watch Co. of Long Island, which hired its first Negroes within the past year, has such a pressing need for women workers that it has now resorted to radio advertising to obtain them."

JUL 20 1943

WHITE EMPLOYES ABSENTEE RATE HIGHER THAN NEGRO

Christian Recorder
SEP 25 1943

NEW YORK—A check on the absentee rate among white and colored employees of the Ford Instrument company, subsidiary of the Sperry company, shows whites to be absent almost four times as much as Negroes. The rate for all is 4.27, and the rate for Negroes is 1.10.

Philadelphia, Pa.

The overall rate for males is 3.54, but for Negro males is 1.0. The overall rate for females is 5.89, but for Negro females is 1.45.

Ford Instrument company manufactures precision instruments such as bomb sights and automatic pilots for ships and aircraft. At first, the company did not want to hire Negroes on the excuse they could not do precision work, but the records made by our employes have changed their minds.

SEP 25 1943

Our Bus Drivers Are Doing 'OK'; Progress Noted On Many Lines

Amsterdam Star-News New York, N. Y.
JUN 12 1943

By CARL LAWRENCE

Do you recall the protest meetings which preceded the decision to place "our boys" behind the steering wheels of Eighth Avenue busses and how the main bus stops were picketed?

Remember how the people cheered when seven young men were finally selected as trainees?

Well, this is to report that New York City's first Negro bus drivers are doing quite well, according to Matthew J. O'Connor, superintendent of transportation for the Eighth Avenue Bus Corporation.

Instead of the original seven though, there are now 34 Negro drivers (four on leave to U. S. Army) and it is quite likely that "a few more" will be placed soon, if O. D. T. regulations don't "become too strict."

Officials of the bus company aren't alone in their praise of Negro bus drivers. "The Amsterdam News" also inquired about "our boys" at the Transport Workers Union, 153 W. 64th St.

William Grogan, TWU recording secretary, estimated that there are more than 2,000 Negroes in the Union.

"We now have some of them driving busses out in Queens," Grogan said, "and before we finish this fight for democracy we'll have the Negro boys everywhere, the same as anybody else."

THE ORIGINAL FIGHT

When the original fight was made by a committee consisting of Roger Straughn, president of the Harlem Labor Union, Julius J. Adams, associate editor of this newspaper, Councilman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., Attorney John Stevens and several other prominent Harlemites, some people said that it was a fight that could not be won.

Union officials, anxious to win community goodwill, took an active part when executives of the bus company hinted that the union was kicking on admitting Negroes and within a few weeks Harlem had won one of its greatest victories.

Now that a good job was done by all including a splendid cooperative spirit on the part of executives of the Eighth Avenue Bus Company, community leaders are pointing out that democracy invariably works when the people decide to make it work.

ON MANY BUS LINES

According to the bus company's Mr. O'Connor, Negro bus drivers were originally assigned to the Eighth and Lexington Avenue lines. In recent months, however, "our boys" have been working many other lines.

"That is a result." O'Connor said of the manner in which the Negro boys went about their jobs. I can truthfully say that we're proud of the record made by them."

Questioned on whether the present gas shortage would interfere with Negro drivers already employed, other officials of the company promised that Negroes would receive a square deal in every respect, if ODT regulations and the gas shortage resulted in a layoff.

JUN 12 1943

Still Going After 16 Months



WHEN NEGRO BUS DRIVERS were hired here for the first time (16 months ago) Charles A. Smith was among the original trainees. Bus company and union officials reported this week that "our boys" are making good. Thirty-four Negroes drive buses in Manhattan and several have been hired as drivers in other sections of the city.

The Union
Cincinnati, Ohio
SEP 9 1943

WHITE ABSENTEE RATE HIGHER!

New York—A check on the absentee rate among white and colored employes of the Ford Instrument company, subsidiary of the Sperry company, shows whites to be absent almost four times as much as Negroes.

The rate for all is 4.27, and the rate for Negroes is 1.10.

The overall rate for males is 3.54, but for Negro males is 1.0. The overall rate for females is 5.89, but for Negro females is 1.45.

Ford Instrument company manufacturers precision instruments such as bomb sights and automatic pilots for ships and aircraft. At first, the company did not want to hire Negroes on the excuse they could not do pre-

The Girls Start Their Training At the Throttle

MAY 1 2 1943

Passersby on the Ridgewood streets stared in surprise yesterday when they noticed that a trolley marked "Special," making its way from the Fresh Pond Rd. carbarns, was being operated by a woman.

"Hey look, fellas," yelled an urchin, "lady drivers, ya!"

And that was how 15 women yesterday began their training as drivers on the New York City trolley system.

The women, who range from 22 to 41, and are all 5 feet 1 or over, are the first ever to be hired by the city for such a job, and they're all pretty excited about it.

"I wanted to do something toward the war effort," said Adele Turner, 80 McDonough St., Brooklyn. "I was turned down by the WAACS because of my weight, so I applied for this instead. I drove a trolley today. Oh, it was wonderful!"

The trainees will be working out at the Fresh Pond Rd. carbarns for the rest of this week. After that they'll move to the Ninth Ave. carbarns, which will be their permanent station. In about a month they'll start their regular shift, which will be mostly on the Coney Island lines.

The motorwomen's uniform hasn't been officially chosen yet, although the Board of Transportation has announced that they will wear the regular cap and badge.

"We're definitely going to wear slacks, though," they said yesterday, after a short conference between classes. "We have to, because our skirts ride up.

"And after all, it wouldn't do for us to attract too much attention, would it?"

MAY 1 2 1943



Making out a day chart is part of the motorman's duties, and Jane Robinson, 379 Madison St., Brooklyn, takes notes on how it's done.



Out in the yard, Carrie Glover takes a turn at the throttle, while Mrs. Ruth Phillips releases the pole.

Photos by Morris Gordon, PM

PM
New York, N. Y.



Replacing old ties is one of the section hands' duties. These hands, a cross-section of the crew, are an Army wife, a former beautician, an ex-teacher and a 41-year-old housewife with a husband and two sons in the service.

PM
New York, N. Y.

MAY 2 5 1943

35g-1943

New York

Lady Motorman Surprised The Gothamites at First

SEP 18 1943 Daily Worker New York, N.Y.



RUTH FOSTER

By Beth McHenry

Mrs. Ruth Foster says it's funny how quickly people riding on her trolley have got used to the idea of lady motormen. At first they were scared and a lot of them didn't bother to hide their concern, she said. But now lots of customers pause to say to her, you're a fine driver, and to wish her luck. Especially elderly ladies seem to enjoy seeing girls at the wheel, she said.

It would be a callous customer who wouldn't wish a girl like Ruth Foster luck anyhow. She's trim and pretty and confident and she takes her job seriously, feeling responsible to her sex as well as to her husband in the army to make good. Mrs. Foster is on 21 years old and she doesn't look any more than that, although she has a mature manner and a 2½-year-old son.

GOOD UNION MEMBER

We talked to Ruth Foster right after she knocked off work the other evening, outside the 9th Avenue trolley terminal in Brooklyn. She is one of 35 girls who have become lady motormen (as the men transport workers call them) during the past six months. Before she went to work on the trolley she held down a job in a glass factory. She is a good union member and thinks every man and woman in America should belong to the CIO If they know what's good for them she said with a smile.

Ruth Foster's little boy Jerry stays with her mother while she goes out to work and Mrs. Foster says she doesn't know what on earth working girls do whose mothers aren't nearby to take care of the grandchildren. I couldn't afford to put Jerry in a nursery and I couldn't afford to hire someone to look after him, she said, and pay rent and all the rest of it.

of the 9th Avenue terminal are young Negro women, like Mrs. Foster. She says it does her own heart good to see her kind of people stepping into jobs that used to be reserved for whites only. The war is helping to break down Jim Crow, she thinks. It's got to, she said, or it won't be much of a victory.

A SERIOUS WAR JOB

About seven of the 35 are already on steady jobs, with regular runs, but Mrs. Foster is still one of the extras and her job sometimes has her up at 4 in the morning. That's pretty early, she said, but when you've got a baby you know more about getting up early than other people do.

Mrs. Foster feels that her job is a war job because the girls going on the trolley are making it easier for men to do other things, like fighting or going to sea. Her whole family is in the war more or less, she said. Her only brother has just gone into the army and both her sister and her father are defense workers.

As for herself, well, having your husband so far away is tough, she said. He's in California and she hasn't seen him since last winter But then war itself is tough, and the way I look at it, that goes for me as well as for everybody else she said

Wider Negro Job Placement Now Seen as Guarantee for Post-War

New York, N. Y. Daily Worker SEP 18 1943 DEC 28 1943

The Brooklyn Urban League's industrial program for 1944 will "emphasize the factors of the Negro's industrial position with relation to after-the-war job security, and guidance of the Negro worker in such a way as to make for him as permanent a place as possible in industry," according to a statement just issued by Lorenzo F. Davis, industrial secretary of the Brooklyn League.

The statement said that although "the basic and immediate concern of making a living" may be dismissed as no longer a problem for the Negro worker, experience during the past year indicates continued existence of many formidable obstacles to the Negro workers full and permanent integration into industry." It said that the kinds of jobs to which Negroes have been admitted, the industries in which they have been concentrated, and the degree of fairness with which they have been advanced, "all bear heavily on the relative permanency and post-war future of this integration."

The Brooklyn Urban League projects the following as the program for which it will work in 1944:

JOB SHIFT

1. Greater shift of Negro workers from "traditionally" Negro, unessential jobs, into war industries and into new fields of non-industrial opportunity (department stores, office buildings, retail stores, etc.), now opening to them, urging meanwhile that Negroes be hired by these establishments not only in restricted jobs but wherever there are vacancies.

2. Fairer upgrading and training within industry of Negro workers with demands especially to local aircraft industries to do away with their present inequitable treatment of Negro workers as common laborers, porters and helpers despite declared skills.

3. Showing Negro workers that can help secure their own future in industry by:

(a) Entering such industries as aircraft manufacturing and maintenance, plastic, radio and electrical

(b) Working amiably and conscientiously with their associates.

(c) Joining and participating in the activities of the labor unions of their industries.

(d) Saving money, preferably in war bonds.

(e) Belonging to the Urban League, the National Negro Congress and other such organizations

4. Determine what local management, organized labor and government are doing to bring about post-war "full employment" of the Negro.

5. Prevail upon organized labor to protect the rights of Negro members in accordance with its seniority rules.

6. Urge maintenance of the New York State War Council Committee on Discrimination in Employment and the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee throughout the post-war period of economic readjustment "as a necessary forward step in stabilizing some of the hard-won employment gains of Negro Workers."

Chock Full o' Nuts Company Hires Colored in 22 Stores

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.
OCT 9 1943

8 Are Assistant Managers; 3 Managers; Workers Promised Jobs After War in N.Y.'s Largest Food Service Chain

By RICHARD DIER

NEW YORK—Colored employees of one of the largest chain food service organizations in the city will be given the opportunity to continue their employment after the war, according to Michael O'Kola, personnel manager of the Chock Full O'Nuts Company which operates 22 stores in Manhattan and Brooklyn.

"The fact is," Mr. O'Kola explained, "we are so satisfied with our employees that we recently circulated letters promising them jobs after the war if they continued their satisfactory work.

"We have found that they are efficient, honest and industrious and don't take long to learn their jobs. I speak for our organization when I say that we shall always have openings for colored people as well as whites."

Manager Errs

I asked Mr. O'Kola whether Chock Full O'Nuts, which sells drinks, sandwiches, soups and desserts at a price range of from 5 to 12 cents, ever employed colored people before the war. He told me that it had for the past six years. Why he said this I don't know.

I checked later with several of the store managers and learned that only since the war has this policy been in effect. Whether Mr. O'Kola misinformed me intentionally or whether he was in error is hard to say. He seemed to be sincere.

What are the beginning salaries for your employees? I asked him.

"We start them at salaries ranging from $18 to $20 per week and advance them every few months or so. That usually depends upon the efficiency of the employee, which incidentally, includes his knowledge of handling customers nicely. Sometimes a recommendation from a customer can advance an employee very rapidly."

Some of your stores are located in rather fashionable districts. In how many stores do you employ colored workers?

Draw No Lines

"In all 22. We draw no lines as to district or location. We are happy to be able to use them in every one of our stores. In fact we just can't get enough colored help these days. We need more and more all the time."

Isn't this because of the war? I asked. Would you be so generous in offering employment to them if you could get whites for the same money?

"Absolutely not," he replied. "War or no war, we are very much satisfied with our employees and will continue to keep them on the job long after the war is ended.

"The opportunities for advancement at Chock Full O'Nuts are very good," Mr. O'Kola said. "At the present time we have 8 colored assistant managers and 3 managers. I think that is a pretty good number, and I see no reason why it should not increase in the future. We have no bars or restrictions when it comes to promotions. To us, it's efficiency that counts. If they have it, they get ahead."

Advertise for Help

How do you go about getting your help? I queried.

"We advertise through the daily newspapers. So far, we have been able to get most of our help through ads in the New York Daily News."

After concluding my interview, I visited several of the company's stores in Manhattan. At one place, located at the corner of Forty-ninth Street and Broadway, I found five girls and a white manager. One of the girls was the assistant manager.

As I sat and watched them work, I was surprised at the cooperation between the employees and the manager. Although this store was full of customers every minute of the hour, no huffing or puffing was evident. All went about their work calmly and whenever the manager spoke, he was polite and friendly.

To anyone who has been served at any food stands on Broadway, this is quite a novelty. Generally, the clerks at the stand push each other around in tending customers. The manager is always eager to boss the employees in a gruff sort of way. This holds true for some of the largest and finest stores in the city.

Employees Efficient

I spoke to George Reich, manager, who told me that he had been working eight years for the company.

How do you like the employees? I asked him.

"I like them very much," he answered. "They are sincere in their work and very capable and efficient. Our customers who come in are satisfied with the service. What more can you ask?"

I asked him why they weren't employed before the war.

"I can't say," he replied. "Most likely, it's because there were so many white people without jobs. Now, it's different. There's a war on and you can't get what you want when you want it."

Does that mean, I queried, that after the war, when white help will be plentiful, these people will not have the chance to work here?

"No, I don't mean that," he replied. "I think that the management of our organization has learned that colored employees can work just as well as whites and can be just as efficient and industrious, and when peace comes they'll have equal opportunity for employment here. In fact, those people who are already working here have been asked to stay on indefinitely."

All Meals Free

I spoke to the sandwich girl, Mrs. Lillian Binson, 24. She told me that she had been working there for two months and was earning $20 per week.

Tell me about the job, I said. How do you like it?

"The work here isn't bad at all," she explained. "We put in 45 hours a week, and get our meals free. The conditions are pleasant and the girls are friendly.

"Mr. Reich, the manager, is very fair to us. He doesn't bother us at all. Only once in a while, he gets moody and is hard to approach, but that isn't often. Most of the time, he acts very nice . . . not like a manager at all."

What kind of work did you do before you came here? I asked her.

Was Factory Worker

"Factory work. I worked at the M. J. Novelty Company at 38th Street in New York. It's a hat factory. The job there paid more than this, but it got slow and I was laid off, so I came here."

How did you get your job here? asked Mrs. Binson.

"I got it through an ad in the Daily News. It advertised for colored girls and told them to apply at the main office at 250 West 54th Street, so I went there and got the job right away."

What privileges do you have here as far as holidays are concerned?

"We get all the legal holidays off with pay, and on Christmas we get one week's extra pay. You know, they used to give employees bonds for good service but theu cut it out a few months ago, before I came here."

Would you like to work here after the war? I asked.

"Yes, I'd like to," she answered. "Although our pay now isn't much when you consider the high cost of living, it will be very attractive in peace time when prices get back to normal."

Counter Girl Earns $22

I then talked to Miss Mildred Hornsby, 21, who said she had been working as a countergirl for four months and her salary was now $22 a week. She had started at $20. She liked her job very much and intended to keep it after the war.

Formerly, she was a waitress at the Cedar Shore Hotel in Long Island, and also a pantry girl in a restaurant in Radio City. She averaged $20 a week at both, but had to leave because of illness. She appeared happy in her work.

Miss Mary Lee Gregg, 21, told me that she earned $21 as a sandwich girl. She has been employed for four months.

How do you like the work? I asked her.

"I am more than satisfied," she answered. "The people I work with are nice to me and Mr. Reich, the manager, is a swell fellow."

What kind of work did you do before this and how did you get the job? I queried.

Native of Virginia

"I'm not a New Yorker," she replied. "I come from Portsmouth, Va., where I worked in a basket factory and earned $23 a week. My uncle, who lives here, wrote me about openings in Chock Full O'Nuts, so I packed up and came here and got the job. I'm not sorry I came here at all."

Do you intend to keep this job after the war? I asked.

"No, I am going to be a nurse. Right now, I am a nurses' aide at the Red Cross. As soon as I get a chance, I am going to take up practical nursing. That's my ambition in life."

Miss Agnes Felton, the assistant manager of the store, has been employed for one year and two months. She gets a bonus in addition to her salary. This bonus is dependent upon the business that the store does. Miss Felton, who is only 24, is well liked by her co-workers and respected by the white manager.

Others Draw Color Bar

After I left this store, I walked along Broadway from 49th Street to 42nd Street and tried to sight another food service stand staffed by some colored employees, but I was unsuccessful. There are many other chain stores along this great avenue but they still continue to draw the color line, war or no war.

Whether Chock Full O'Nuts is employing colored help now in good intent or in desperation as a result of the manpower shortage can be overlooked at this time. The main thing is that it has removed the bars of restriction for ture in its offer to continue its policy when peace is here again. This organization deserves to be complimented.

35g-1943

New York

Clerks in 122 Spotless Stores Earn 50 Cents an Hour

Policy Is to Employ Colored in Mixed Neighborhoods; Management Says There Is No Discrimination

By RICHARD DIER

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"We have no discrimination here at Spotless and we hire without regard to race or religion," the personnel manager, Mark Denburg, revealed in an exclusive AFRO interview recently.

"To prove this point," he continued, "we have employed colored people for 15 years and have advanced some of them to the positions of store managers."

"Does this mean," I asked, "that your company will continue this policy in the future?"

"Without a doubt," he answered. "As far as I can see, we will always employ colored and white as the needs demand.

"Incidentally, we have our own cleaning factory located in Paterson, N.J., and a goodly number of colored men and women are also working there.

Satisfied with Work

"We are very satisfied with them. They are industrious and efficient in their work and if you have any more people who want jobs, just send them over to my office at 1223 St. Nicholas Avenue and I'll put them to work right away."

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They are placed only in strictly colored neighborhoods or partially colored and mixed residential sections. The proof of this is that it operates many stores in Manhattan and the Bronx in lily white districts where only white work.

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My informants also explained how Spotless operated:

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"There are three girls working under me and I am responsible for the work here. It is a big responsibility but I am satisfied with my position.

Raises Every Year

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"I worked in a factory before I was hired here," she said, "and I was glad to get this job. My salary is pretty good. The raises bring the hourly rate up to 52 cents an hour and even above that, according to the union contract and the rising cost of living.

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Asked about working conditions, she replied:

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They are using colored employees in practically every job in the company.

Fear or Good Business

The personnel department has not seen fit to place them in all stores, regardless of location. Whether it is fear or just a sense of good business, as they would call it, is beside the question. They are discriminating and pursuing the easiest course, the well-known jim-crow line of reasoning.

It is up to the colored employees of this chain organization to get together and bring their employer into line. This would not be difficult since Spotless generally has a pretty good record, as judged from its past employment policies, and is considered a fair employer by its vast number of workers.

Age

New York, N. Y.

White Employee Absentee Rate Higher Than Negro

A check on the absentee rate among white and colored employees of the Ford Instrument company, subsidiary of the Sperry company, shows whites to be absent almost four times as much as Negroes. The rate for all is 4.27, and the rate for Negroes is 1.10.

The overall rate for males is 3.54, but for Negro males is 1.0. The overall rate for females is 5.89, but for Negro females is 1.45.

Ford Instrument company manufactures precision instruments such as bomb [illegible] automatic pilots for ships and aircraft. At first, the company did not want to hire Negroes on the excuse they could not do precision work, but the records made by our employes have changed their minds.

The plant management, which has hired colored men and women successfully in many production operations since it was converted to essential war work several years ago, was charged with having discriminated against qualified Negro inspectors by several complainants. One of these had had previous experience as an inspector in the Binden, N. J., plant of the same corporation. Another had worked as an inspector at the Bell Aircraft corporation in Buffalo.

When FEPC's investigation disclosed that the complainants had not been hired although jobs were open which they were qualified to fill, and that no Negroes had ever worked as inspectors in the plant, the management was requested to take immediate steps to comply with Executive Order 9346. Within a few days the two complainants who had had previous experience in the work were hired as inspectors. One of the remaining two complainants had previously accepted production work in the plant and declined to be transferred; the fourth was found to be unqualified.

J. G. Knapp, director of the [illegible]'s industrial relations department, has since confirmed in writing to the FEPC regional office that the company's policy is to hire qualified persons for any type of work without regard to their race, creed, color, or national origin.

Eastern Air Co. Hires Negroes As Inspectors

Defender

Chicago, Ill

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Employment of Negroes as inspectors for the first time in the Eastern aircraft division plant in Tarrytown, N. Y., was brought about in November by the New York Regional FEPC office, according to Edward Lawson, director.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH PEEL 82

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

Runaway Youth Given Sound Advice; Takes It; Now He's Expert Technician

Dutch Technician Checking His Work



EDDIE ENGELHARDT, the Dutch radio technician at the amplifier which he installed at the Harlem Defense Center and over which many Broadway and Hollywood celebrities have spoken and performed. Cpl. William Crawford and Sgt. George A. Macon look on while Sailor R. A. Russell makes an announcement over the microphone.

By RAMONA LOWE

A slender young Dutch boy with a brown skin and a strange accent came to this country twenty years ago after his mother insisted that he came home early nights. His only contact in America was an uncle who was working in the Post Office. When he got off the boat on which he had worked his passage over he asked where the Post Office was and was directed to the branch at 13th and Montague Streets. "I am Eddie Engelhardt and I am looking for my uncle, Charles De Batters, who works here," he said.

"There is no one here by that name," said the clerk at the information window. But when the lad insisted the clerk began to search around for the uncle and found that he was working at the main post office. By this time the whole staff was interested and they sent him to his uncle on one of the postal trucks.

Sent Back Home

"I expected my uncle to greet me with open arms," Engelhardt said, "but instead he shook my hand and sent me back home with the instruction, 'Learn a trade. America needs trades.' So when I came again to America, I was ready."

So began Engelhardt's Odyssey to the new world. He came the second time as a seasoned electrical engineer. "I knew nothing about prejudice," he said. "A rotten Dutchman from Zeedyk, the bad neighborhood, might call you a 'blauw' which means colored, but that was seldom. In Holland you are welcome everywhere and no one looks at you as if they think you are strange although there are not many colored people there."

But it was soon evident to the Dutch lad that white Americans did not relish seeing a Negro in engineering jobs. He took a refresher course in radio mathematics under a Dutch professor, Albert Heckman at Columbia so that he would not lose touch with his work.

Wilhelm Von Hoogstraaten, guest conductor of the Philharmonic and a friend of Eddie's father who was a prominent Amsterdam engineer introduced him to some influential people with the idea of getting him a job. When they protested about his color, Hoogstraaten said, "He's not colored, he's Dutch!"

Hoogstraaten's recommendations got him a job as a radio specialist with Stromberg-Carlson and soon made a wireless. Every little Dutch boy has a wireless. We talked over it like over a phone. Every boy knew every time a battleship sent a message.

"I think those of us with training should spread our knowledge. Taking a gun and shooting the other man won't do any good. I should like to teach kids what I know gratis. Keep them off the streets, make them strong. If they learn a trade well they will be respected and they can demand what they want."

Engelhardt, a dapper well dressed young man with a book in his pocket and expressive hands that flash a diamond ring, can do anything with a machine. "I find the cause of the trouble, tend to it, then put in the new part. That makes a good mechanic anytime."

His Blue Book List

The list of people for whom he has installed amplification systems reads like a page from the Blue Book. He also installed the system at the St. Moritz and at the Club Encore and he supervised the installation at the Roxy and corrected the amplification at the Paramount. Attorney Albert Mintzer, for whom he is now doing a job said, "If my friends spoke as highly of me as your referen[illegible] speak of you, I'd be the happiest man in the world."

Whenever he goes for a rest, people besiege him with requests to fix their radios. "I went to Mount Vernon last week and fixed 24 radios. White people make a fool of Negroes. They tell them they can't fix their radio till after the war or they need a new one or they can't get the parts. But it's not so. I fixed 14 radios in one day."

He built and installed the entire amplifying system at the Harlem USO Center as one of his contributions to the war effort. "I made a system they could talk from downstairs to the roof, ballroom, third floor library and music room. They can get a program anywhere and they don't have to move from their seat." A job like that Engelhardt described as "the cream of radio work." And it has caused so much comment from the radio and movie stars who have spoken over it that all the downtown clubs now want a similar system.

He referred to his generosity in installing the system as "the way I spend my spare time when I'm not studying or doing experimental work."

No Wayward Kids

"In my home any adult who thinks a child is not behaving, whether he knows him or not, has a right to correct him. And we don't have any children roaming about the streets. When you go to school, they ask you what you like to do. If you like carpentry then after school hours you are sent to the carpenter shop to learn the trade. And it is with anything you want to do. It is a pity these boys here don't study things like that instead of running on the streets. It would make them powerful. Only way to get up in the world is to learn trade and mechanics.

"When I was a boy my grandfather gave me a lathe machine that I had in the cellar. And I

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

DEMOCRACY AT WORK . . . RACE WOMAN MANAGES SODA FOUNTAIN IN JERSEY


OCT 30 1943
359
NY
Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

Interracial hamony on the job is demonstrated at its best in one of Camden's (N. J.) largest five-and-ten stores, where Mrs. Helen Anderson (second from left), manages the soda fountain and lunch counter with all-white help under her direction. Mrs. Anderson buys, plans menus and is in charge of seven girls on "rush" days. From left to right are some of her personnel: Shirley Hendrickson, Mrs. Anderson, the manager; Misses Mae Murray, Claire Kain and Edna Gillikan.—Lawson Photo.

Clerks in 122 Spotless Stores Earn 50 Cents an Hour

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md
NOV 6 1943
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35c-1943
Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Construction Camp Hires Negro Women As Laborers

MAR 6 1943

GREENSBORO, N. C.—Be-use of the shortage of men borers at the Greensboro my air forces basic training mp, about a dozen colored men have been employed as la-rers there, marking the firs ne in local construction histo at women have been so employed. More women will be sent to the base as fast as they can be se-red, Waldo Porter, manager of local employment office stated s week. A. D. Roach, manager of Jones Construction company ich has the training camp con-et, said he had never seen wo-n working as laborers on con-uctions before, but, "we're going try it and see how it works."

t was explained that the women not doing the heavy jobs gen-lly assigned to men laborers, but working inside the barracks, aning up and carrying materials. ey are being paid the same as n would receive for similar rk, it was stated, and if more men are hired will constitute a ll further threat to the already nishing ranks of colored wage domestic workers.

Employment Manager Porter said didn't know why local Negro orers are disinclined to work at construction camp. The camp w has more skilled than un-illed labor, he stated. There are 00 carpenters at work and only laborers.

MAR 6 1943

Dunn N C Dispatch
July 5, 194

Retires

Isaac Cutts, local Negro, has re-d from the Durham & Southern ilroad after 40 years of faithful rvice.

Cutts began his work in 1902 un-r Captain I. M. Reams of this y and remained with him until ams retired a short while ago. Cutts began his work with the nstruction crew and helped lay rails leading into Dunn. Later advanced to brakeman and held job until the time of his retire-nt.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Tobacco Union Asks Poll at Camel Plant

MAR 6 1943

(Special to the Daily Worker)

PHILADELPHIA, June 25.—The largest cigarette plant in the world R. J. Reynolds in Winston-Salem, N Carolina, will soon be CIO, accord-ing to announcement by Presi-dent Donald Henderson of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Pack-ing and Allied Workers of America the CIO union in the tobacco field.

JUN 26 1943

Camels, Prince Albert smoking to-bacco and other famous brands of smoking, chewing and plug tobacco are manufactured in this establish-ment of 20 plants and some 13,000 employes which towers over Win-ston-Salem.

Application has been made for an NLRB election, following a whirl-wind climax to the organizing drive in which well over 8,000 of the pro-duction workers have joined the CIO union. Whites and Negroes are employed in about equal numbers in the plant.

Workers flocked into the union since the outbreak of stoppages June 17, stoppages for which even the company admits the union was in no way responsible.

Long standing grievances had piled up to the breaking point over excessively heavy work loads and inequalities in pay within the plant. With the company determined not to recognize the union, the union had been unable to effect settle-ments of the grievances.

JUN 26 1943

Through the services of U. S. Conciliator R. W. Goodrick, terms have been agreed to between chair-men of 35 workers' departments and plant committees and the company whereby work will be resumed, no discrimination against those who left work will be practiced and grievances will be negotiated.

WORK OR JAIL

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

North Carolina Governor Issues Order Affecting Many Negroes

RALEIGH, N.C., Aug. 5—Governor J. M. Broughton acted here this week to enforce slave labor on the colored citizens of North Carolina.

In a proclamation promulgating a "work or jail" law, the Dixie governor directed every male between 18 and 55 not now working more than 35 hours a week in "gainful" employment to take full-time jobs in essential industry or agriculture.

AUG 7 1943

The law effectively forces many prosperous Negroes to slave on farms at peon wages, since they are discriminated against in indus-try.

It provides for an inventory of all manpower in the State, and directs its mobilization, conserva-tion and distribution.

A labor mobilization board rep-resentative of local agriculture and industry will be set up in each county.

Laurinburg, N. C. Exchange
September 23, 1943

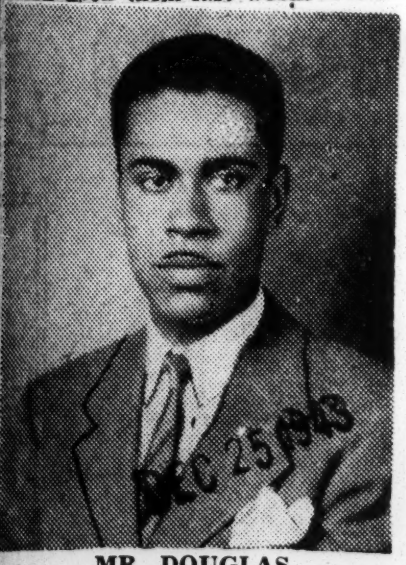
WOMEN WORKERS. Colored women workers are helping to meet the labor shortage at the local oil mill and the fertilizer plant, and are taking their places by the side of the colored men who work in these plants. This is the first time that colored women have entered local industry as workers, and it shows how serious the labor prob-lem is on the home front. Colored men have always done much of the work in these plants but this year there are not enough men to take care of the job and the women have been admitted to the ranks of the workers. They will get the same basic pay for the same work that the men get, and how good they are remains to be seen. But they are helping out in an emer-gency and it is another case of what the war is doing to us.

35g-1943
Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Ohio

Fisher Body Pledges No Discrimination

CLEVELAND, Ohio.—Race and color will not be considerations in the employment of 20,000 workers to assure full production by the Fisher body plant and the Cleveland Aircraft Assembly plant. This assurance was given by Fisher body officials to a Negro delegation who called upon them last week.



MR. DOUGLAS

Journal & Guide

Winston Douglas, Jr. Accepts Position As Chemical Engineer

Norfolk. Va.

NORFOLK—Winston A. Douglas, son of Principal [illegible] Douglas and Mrs. Douglas, of 860 Rugby street, who graduated as a chemical engineer from Renesselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, New York, on December 23, has accepted a position as chemical engineer with the Durion Chemical Company, Dayton, Ohio.

Young Douglas was offered work as a chemical engineer at Columbia University, New York but decided to accept the position in the Durion plant.

He gradnated from the Booker T. Washington High School in 1937, attended Virginia State College 1937-1939; graduated (A. B.) Lincoln University in 1941; entered Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in the fall of 1941 and graduated bachelor of chemical engineering (Ch. E. B.) December 23, 1943.

Mr. Douglas was an honor student in each of the four schools mentioned above. During his last two years at Rensselaer his work was so good that he was exempted from examinations in practically all of his subjects. He will spend the Christmas holidays with his parents here after which he will go to Dayton to take up his work with the Durion Company.

35g-1943

Herman T. Smith Making Big Record With Pepsi-Cola

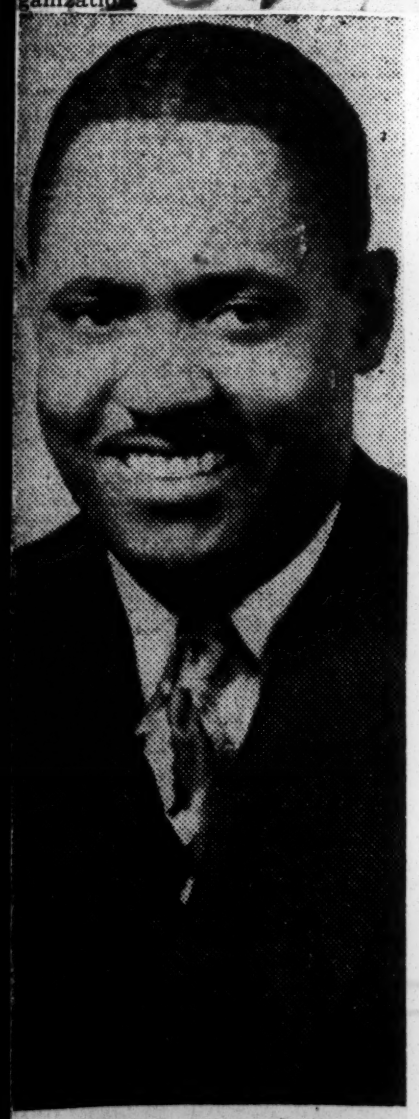
FEB 3 1943

Pit[illegible]rgh Courier

Pit[illegible]h, Pa.

Holds One of the Most Important Positions Ever Held By Race Man In Large National Concern

Several years ago Pepsi-Cola broke into the news with the announcement that Herman T. Smith, well-known race promotion and former newspaper man, had been appointed to an important post in the company's national sales organization.



HERMAN T. SMITH

In spite of the war and general business curtailment, Mr. Smith's work in the company has increased and additional Negroes have been employed by the parent Pepsi-Cola company and its independent bottlers. Today, in addition to Mr. Smith, six other Negro men and two young ladies have been employed in the national office of the company and 23 Negro salesmen have been employed by the company's independent bottlers scattered throughout the country.

Negroes in Pepsi-Cola's national offices now include Herman T. Smith as director, Miss Jeanette Maund from Hampton institute, Miss Marion O. Bond from Lane college, Allan C. McKellar from South Carolina State college, and Phillip Kane from Morgan college, all in national sales; Thomas C. Richter from Howard university, Thomas C. Livingston, Lincoln (Pa.) university; Joseph Christian, former advertising manager of the Amsterdam Star News, and People's Voice, and Atty. Ed Dudley, former assistant New York State's Attorney General, who are doing a special work in Army camps, of a morale-building nature, sponsored by Pepsi-Cola company.

Mr. Livingston and Mr. Kane are now members of our Armed Forces. In addition to these Negroes in the white collar bracket, several hundred additional Negroes have been employed in many Pepsi-Cola plants.

Mr. Smith directs the efforts of this Negro group and they are an important cog in most company operations.

Pennsylvania

Studied City Planning In Germany And Russia

MAY 22 1943

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is one of three feature articles on Negro engineers, architects, and contractors who are contributing to the construction of major projects by the Federal Government.)

Tribune

Philadelphia, Pa.

When Hilyard R. Robinson, a promising young Negro student, quit the Pennsylvania Museum and School of Industrial Arts in 1918 to enlist as a buck private in the A. E. F., he had no idea that he was making the most important step in his career.

When Second Lieutenant Hilyard R. Robinson, of the U. S. Field Artillery, returned from Europe, however, he had pretty definite thoughts on the matter. He was convinced that this wrecked Continent would furnish the laboratory in which low-cost State housing and city planning would be developed. And he felt that American pioneers in this field should make use of that laboratory.

Robinson didn't get back to Europe until 1931--after extended study at the University of Pennsylvania, A.M. and M. A. degrees in Architecture at Columbia University, and more than a decade as head of the Department of Architecture at Howard University in his native Washington, D. C.

But he did go back. And the Federal Government, the War and Navy Departments and tens of thousands of underprivileged American families and war workers have benefited from his intensive studies in Holland, Germany, Russia, Austria and the Scandinavian countries.

Today, a pioneer and one of the leading architects in the field of Federal construction, Robinson has designed public housing projects costing more than $10,000,000. He has been architect and engineer on a $6,000,000 U. S. Army air base and school, which has served as a model for similar airfields throughout the country. He has devised and patented a combination blackout and florescent light which is used, with modifications, by the War and Navy Departments and the Pennsylvania Central Airlines. And he is now completing plans for the construction of two war housing projects at Ypsilanti, Mich., which will bring needed relief to thousands of war workers in the giant Ford Willow Run plant, five miles away. These projects will be constructed by the Federal Public Housing Authority.

MAY 22 1943

Many of Robinson's contributions to the war effort can be traced to his intensive studies in Europe. At the University of Berlin, he studied city planning; at Weimar, he delved into German airport technique and bomb resisting technical design and construction. In Vienna, he visited the largest State-created housing development in the world, the Karl Marx Homes, and in Russia, Holland, Denmark and the Scandinavian countries, he followed all new developments in public housing.

On his return, his experiences were immediately put to use. In 1933, he organized and directed the first slum-clearance housing survey in the Nation's capital. In 1934, he was appointed architect in charge of planning and design for Negro housing projects of the Subsistence Homesteads, U. S. Department of Interior. During the same year he became consulting architect to the National Capital Advisory Committee for selection of slum clearance sites in Washington, D. C. And in 1935 he was named consulting and senior architect for the U. S. Resettlement Administration.

Robinson's first big low-cost dwelling job came when his firm, Robinson, Porter and Williams, designed the $1,600,000 PWA Langston Housing project for 274 families, in northeast Washington. The design for this project was placed on exhibit and elicited widespread comment at the Museum of Art in New York City.

MAY 22 1943

Since then he has designed the $1,200,000 Frederick Douglass Dwellings in southeast Washington, a $1,500,000 project for Negro war workers at Sparrows Point, Md, and has served as architect and associate for the recently-completed George Washington Carver and Lucy D. Slowe Halls, first Government hotels for male and female Negro war workers in the Nation's capital.

Robinson's largest War Department job came when he served as architect and engineer at the 99th Pursuit Squadron Base and Pilot Training School at Tuskegee, Ala. Originally scheduled as a $2,500,000 undertaking, the project was expanded to a $6,000,000 venture before its 450 buildings, airfield, hangar, runaways and other community facilities had been completed. The approximately 167-foot difference in elevations of the 1,700 acre tract added to the difficulties of the job which also included the changing of the course of a large stream which encroached upon the proposed airfield. Despite its elevation difficulties, however, indirect contribution to the space and the commercial manufacture of this light, the Illuminating Engineering Society, national organizations of electrical engineers, inspected the Howard dormitory in September, 1940, and pronounced it the best lighting job for a building of that type in the United States.

MAY 22 1943

The architect made another work and created one. He designed a combination outdoor lighting and blackout lamp which eliminates glare and changes yellow light to white. Continuing his experiments, he was designing a dormitory at Howard University, incidentally, Informed that a he has received 13 patents on lighting appliances and a modified Howard light is used by the Army, Navy and McKissick of Nashville, stall did not exist, he set to being constructed by a Negro certain type of non-glaring contracting firm, McKissick light which he wished to in-ification of his Howard base and school, Tenn.

MAY 22 1943

The architect made another signed a combination outdoor though a shortage of critical materials has prevented the completed field has experienced less fog than most other airports in the country. The men's dormitory at Howard University, however, Informed that a he has received by a Negro certain type of non-glaring lighting appliances and a modified Howard light is used by the Army, Navy 1940, and pronounced it the best lighting job for a building of that type in the United States.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

States.

Honors of this sort were not new to Robinson. In 1926, he won the competition for the construction of an historic restaurant at the new Henry Hudson Hotel in Troy, N. Y. In 1927-28, he won first, second and fourth prizes for competitions in "Architecture," professional journal, and, in 1934, he won second prize in the Washington Board of Trade Renovizing Home Competition. And he was a member of the National Technical Association and the International Housing Association.

The architect maintains offices at 1927 Eleventh street, N. W., Washington, D. C., in a building which he designed and erected to include many of the features of modern lighting and construction which he perfected.

Certify Woodson As Registered Civil Engineer

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa
OCT 30 1943

PHILADELPHIA—Granville W. Woodson, son-in-law of Ira F. Lewis, president of The Pittsburgh Courier Publishing company, is the first Negro in Philadelphia to be certified as a Registered Civil Engineer in the state of Pennsylvania.

This was announced last week by the publicity committee of the Philadelphia chapter of the National Technical Association. Officials of the association said the immediate action on Woodson's application received is eloquent testimony not only of his thorough training and wide experience, but also reflects the greater opportunities that have become more active to all.

NOW EMPLOYED AT BUDD'S

Woodson, who formerly lived in Washington, D. C., and who now resides at 105 N. 53rd street, Philadelphia, is employed at the Budd Manufacturing company in the Aircraft Engineering department.

A graduate of the University of Pittsburgh in Civil Engineering, Woodson has also received a M.S. degree from Howard university. His experience included two years with the architectural firm of Robinson and Williams; one and one-half years with Sampel Plato, contractor; eight years with the Woodson Engineering company in association with his father, Howard D. Woodson, and four years with the National Park service.

Woodson is married to the former Jane Lewis of Pittsburgh, Pa., daughter of The Courier president, and they have one son. He is also a member of the Omega Psi Phi fraternity.

Civic And Religious Leaders Urge PTC Upgrade Colored

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.
JUN 19 1943

In an effort to have colored workers integrated into all departments of the Philadelphia Transportation System, the Philadelphia Federation of Churches is circulating petitions for signatures with the endorsement of the local branch of the NAACP.

The petition, which is directed to the president and Board of Directors of the company, urges that the employment of new workers, both men and women, be based solely upon merit and ability, regardless of color, race or creed.

It also asked that the upgrading and promotion of present employees to higher paying and more skilled positions be placed on the basis of merit and ability. The group is trying to obtain the signature of every citizen in the community.

JUN 19 1943

Prior to printing the petition, the following signatures were secured and appear on each copy which is being circulated: Dr. Ross D. Murphy, Curtis Bok, Bishop David H. Sims, Dr. William H. Fineshriber, Dr. Joseph Fort Newton, Norman J. Griffin, Dr. Daniel A. Poling, Herbert E. Millen, Dr. John A. MacCallum the Rev. Marshall L. Shepard Jerome J. Rothschild and Clarence Pickett.

JUN 5 1943

Tram Company Is Ordered To Hire Negroes

Daily World
JUN 16 1943

Union Requests Further Time To Poll Members

Atlanta, Georgia
NOV 7 1943

PHILADELPHIA — (ANP) — Following announcement by G. James Fleming last Monday that the Philadelphia Transportation company would be ordered to hire Negroes as trolley car conductors and operators this week is the scheduled meeting of representatives of the NAACP Action Committee on PTC Employment with Dr. A. A. Mitten, PTC public relations director, Friday.

Fleming, who is regional director of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Fair Employment Practices committee, said PTC has expressed a willingness to abide by the FEPC's proposed directive, but the PRT employes' union has requested time to poll its membership on the issue.

NOV 7 1943

Fleming's announcement came nine days after hundreds of colored citizens, flanked by white sympathizers, staged a mass march to Reyburn plaza, in front of city hall in the heart of the city, and the company's general offices. Picketing the offices was to be the follow-up action.

Mrs. Carolyn Davenport Moore executive secretary of the district NAACP, said the appointment with Dr. Mitten was secured through the city's chief executive, Mayor Bernard A. Samuel. NAACP committee members conferred with Mayor Samuel Wednesday morning, asking him to draw up a resolution calling for the immediate abolition of discrimination in PTC's employment policy. This he refused to do, saying he would rather handle the delicate situation in his own way.

NOV 27 1943

Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman was in conference with Fleming and officials of both the PTC and the PRT union in Philadelphia last week. The discussions and final decisions of the conferences were not revealed to the public. The concensus of opinion is, however, that the regional director's announcement came as a direct result of agreement reached at that meeting.

Wins Increased Pay

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.



Chippers and caulkers in Yard No. 4, Sun Shipbuilding and Drydock Company, who had complained that the automatic rise in wages from 85¢ per hour to 94½¢ after eight weeks' work had not been granted and that a satisfactory promotional system had not been worked out, secured a favorable agreement with Company authorities following a conference with the CIO committee above: Left to right, seated, Clifford Carter, shop steward; Albert Black, national representative, IUMSWA-CIO; C. McDonald, shop treasurer; M. Brown, shop committeeman; Clarence Randolph (extreme left), shop secretary.

Others standing are workers who represent the No. 4 yard chipping department.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

[illegible] S. C.
May 13, 1943

Council Argues Adjustments on City Salaries

The mayor and council of Columbia, meeting in executive session yesterday morning, discussed briefly adjustments which may need to be made under the resolution just passed granting salary increases of 25 cents per day for white and 15 cents per day for Negro employees in all city departments, now making $1,800 or less.

Affected are employees who have not received raises in the last 12 months and those who have received raises which amount to less of an increase than those granted according to the new ruling. Persons in the latter group will be given a raise in the amount of the difference between their last increase and the 25 or 15 cents a day increase.

The need for adjustments has arisen because some city employees are now being paid less than their subordinates.

"Some two or three weeks ago, I raised several men in the Tree department," Dr. Gray Macaulay said at the meeting. "I have no apologies to make, and I would do it again. These men are valuable, and this department is called on to do more work now than it ever has in the past. I was not opposed to a blanket raise, but I think some adjustments may have to be made. In the fire department some of the engineers are now getting only $6 more than privates in the same department."

Councilman E. F. Farr rose immediately to reply:

"Doctor Macaulay may defend the tree department move, but all the talk in the world won't keep the situation from being a Chinese puzzle. And it is a Chinese puzzle: Everywhere you turn, you find a case of a man whose helpers get more than he does."

Mr. Farr said further that he intends to "introduce a resolution at the next meeting of council to straighten out as nearly as they can be straightened out the difficulties now in existence."

Action was deferred on reopening the question of city permits for amusement units desiring to play within Columbia, after a request on the matter was made by E. E. Spain. Penalties for delinquent taxes owed by the Jenkins Automotive agency were cancelled. The amount involved was approximately $182.

Laundresses Quit Jobs Arrested For 'Loafing'

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

COLUMBIA, S. C.—(ANP)—Five Negro women who left their jobs at the Sunshine laundry here were jailed last week and charged with "loafing," but when brought before magistrate's court for trial, the cases were dismissed.

JUL 24 1943

The story of the arrests, jailing and trial, was told Tuesday by Mrs. Mary Davenport, one of the victims.

Mrs. Brown said she quit her job on July 10 because of what she thought were illegal payroll deductions. Tuesday, July 13, as she began supper, two police officers came to her home with the other four women in the car and placed her under arrest. The officers had a list of 18 names, all workers at the Sunshine laundry, she said, and said they were going to arrest the others later.

Mrs. Davenport said when she asked why she was being arrested, the reply was given, "We have orders to put you all in jail." Each of the five posted $25 bond and was brought before a magistrate the following day where the charges were dismissed. They paid a lawyer $10 each to represent them, she said.

JUL 24 1943

The office of the Sunshine laundry knew of the arrests, but it could not be learned whether the names of the women had been supplied police by the laundry as the women contended.

JUL 24 1943

Mrs. Davenport said she and others of the women who refused to work again at the laundry, had been refused work at Fort Jackson, presumably because certain sources had requested refusal.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Daily Fights Equitable Pay

CHARLESTON, 1943 (ANP)—Typical of its fascist preachments, the CHARLESTON NEWS AND COURIER, a daily paper published here, on Tuesday printed an editorial posing the question whether the white people of the south are willing to permit law suits that "compel the payment of salaries to Negro teachers in public schools equal to those paid white teachers."

AUG 1943

Sowing Discord

The News and Courier, one of the most reactionary newspapers in the country took occasion to sow the seed of discontent and race hate with the announcement of a suit filed in Georgia for equal pay for Negro and white teachers. There are suits on file here demanding the same equalization.

Suggesting that whites provide private schools for their children to escape the burden of paying for the education of Negroes, and hinting that it would be "a blessing to the south" to have Negroes migrate to other sections in wholesale numbers, the paper stated:

Way of Escape

"The white taxpayers can establish and maintain private grammar and high schools for their children and thereby escape the staggering load of educating the Negroes in the higher grades.

"Abolition of free tuition in the schools of higher grade would probably accelerate migration of Negroes. The greater the number of Negroes leaving the South the greater will be the number of white settlers coming into it."

The editorial declared that provided these lawsuits are successful the "white taxpayers may begin to think about the load they will be expected to carry" to support "an elaborate system" of education for 9,500,000 Negroes."

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Tennessee

Western Union Hires Negroes

MAR 9 1943 Daily World Atlanta, Georgia

MAR 9 1943

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—(SNS)—Western Union Telegraph Co. on an experimental basis, has employed six Negro boys as messengers for its sub-office on South Florida Street, the Memphis World learned over the week-end While company officials had no comments to make relative to the appointments, it was implied that employment of the boys is a trial which is to be proved in terms of public response, fitness for the work, and war-time labor needs.

Prof. Blair T. Hunt, Booker T Washington high school principal, made announcement of the boys appointment. He had conferred with Western Union officials some time previously about the possibility of using Negro youths, it is stated.

MAR 9 1943

Three of the youths are Theodore Berry, John Griffin, and Joseph Oliver. These youngsters, as well as the other three are on "teen" age, and students at Washington high school.

MAR 9 1943

Western Union has used colored messengers for an extended period in many southern communities of Mississippi, Florida, and other southern states. This is the time such an experiment has been attempted in Memphis, however.

Covington, Tenn. Leader
September 30, 1943

Unemployment Pay Obtained By Fraud

Eleven negro employees of the Federal Compress & Warehouse Co. here paid fines this week of $25 and costs each on charges of obtaining money under false pretenses from the Tennessee Unemployment Compensation Division. Robert Craig, field deputy for the division, preferred the charges and Esq. W. J. Fredrickson imposed the fines.

The negroes had drawn 4 to 10 weeks compensation of $4 to $6 per week each, to which theey were not entitled. Division officials come to Covington every two weeks to handle local cases. The negroes had drawn some bona fide compensation earlier in the year, when they were not earning as much as the $10 per week, the point at which compensation begins under the law.

When the busy season began at the compress and the negroes were earning well over $10 they continued to make application for compensation, misrepresenting their income to the Unemployment Division and drawing the difference.

The following were fined by Esq. Fredrickson: Walter Robinson, Ed Lewis Williams, Jim Wade, Lewis McGregor, Jasper Allen, Robert Cotten, Merritt Dixon, Pete Ervin, William Paul Murphy, Joe Dyson and Ervin Dyson.

Cotton Pickers Join S T F U Are Seeking Higher Wages

Daily World Atlanta, Georgia

SEP 18 1943

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—(SNS)—Over three hundred cotton pickers gathered at Salem Gilfield Baptist Church, Iowa and Fla., Labor Day evening to discuss wages and working conditions prevailing on cotton plantations in the Tri-States where they are employed. Approximately one hundred and fifty workers, during the course of the meeting, joined the Migratory Agriculture Workers Division of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union, elected a temporary committee to serve until permanent organization is perfected.

SEP 18 1943

SEP 18 1943

Indications are that the cotton pickers will demand not less than $2.50 per hundred for picking cotton this season. Current price for cotton picking is $1.50 per one hundred, it was disclosed. There are about 3,000 cotton pickers who leave Memphis each day this season as compared with around 10,000 in previous years. These pickers went as far as sixty miles from the city during past harvest seasons.

Representatives of Memphis trade unions were in attendance. Speakers included James A. Swearingen, business agent for the Chauffeurs and Teamsters Local Union; H. Thomas, representative of the Laundry Workers Union; H. L. Mitchell, General Secretary, Southern Tenant Farmers Union; and Rev. J. E. Clayton, of Houston, Texas.

Rev. Clayton, formerly speaker and noted leader of the rural Negroes in the South, appealed to the Memphis workers to join hands with white and Negro workers of the nearby states to secure for themselves better living conditions. He is principal of a State Agricultural high school near Austin, Texas, and has been engaged in education and the ministry for nearly forty years. In 1924 he organized a group of Negro farm families and aided them in buying farm land in east Texas. Today 8,000 farm families own their own farms as a result of his work. Although he has been offered an important government position, Rev. Clayton turned it down in order to volunteer services in the war efforts by traveling on speaking tours in behalf of Negro farmers and workers for the Southern Tenant Farmers Union.

THE LIVING SOUTH

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

By HAROLD PREECE

AUG 28 1943

Off to the Mills

MY NEIGHBOR, Allie Thompson, went to the mills this week.

She boarded a bus for the first time in her life. Her face was looking back toward the hills when the bus started rolling toward Chattanooga; and she was humming an old mountain spiritual, "My Lord, What A Morning."

It was a morning for Allie Thompson. The hosiery company has offered her $19 a week in the mills — far more than any woman from this mountain has ever earned in her life.

It was a morning for Allie Thompson because the bus was carrying her 50 miles away to a new world.

The song of the bobbin and the spindles mingle with the songs of the mountain meetin' — houses in that new world which has overtaken us folks hemmed in by the hills.

Sunday, at the meetin' house down the road, we offered up prayer for Allie Thompson in her new world. We want her to get along down there in Chattanooga because she's helped birth many a baby and plowed lots of corn for neighbors who got puny on their feet.

We know that Allie Thompson will be sending back money to her crippled husband and her own seven young-uns till she can find a roof for them in Chattanooga.

We hope that she'll be sending us all back some of the ideas which have started trickling back into these coves and hollows — ideas about unions and voting, ideas about equal rights for all of God's children who work the plow and the bobbin.

Life or Death

THE HOPES of the whole South are staked on Allie Thompson — on millions of white people and black people like her who are learning this one big fact:

That we stand up and fight in the new world or that we go down and die with the old world.

But it is the will of the people always to live. The common folks of Italy are showing that will toward life in their continued battle to take their country out of the Axis and put it back into civilization.

Place in the same gallery of rogues Pietro Badoglio of Italy and Martin Dies of Dixie. Place in the lists of those who fight for the future a plain Italian with some such name as Tony Bellini and a plain woman of Dixie named Allie Thompson.

Then you have a key to this whole epoch of life through death of freedom through oppression, of human equality through prejudice and hatred.

Now Allie Thompson has never expected anybody to "talk big" or "write big" about her. She's just a poor hard-working woman who was nine years old when she began drudging as a house slavey for a quarter a week. I doubt if she's ever seen her name in print; I doubt if anything she has done has even been published in the county paper.

But Allie Thompson has learned to think big during these years when she's been "just peckin' out a livin'" here in the hills.

New Days A-Coming

A GENERATION ago, the labor agents of the big textile and hosiery corporations scoured the hills looking for workers. These agents promised the isolated, unread hill people heaven on a tin plate if they would come down to the valleys and thread the looms.

They got them down there, worked them like dogs for scraps, and made them live in pig styes. They hired wolves in sheep's clothing who called themselves preachers to tell the mountain folk that unions were invented by the Devil and that anybody who expected more than a dollar a day would burn in hell crisper than bacon frying in a skillet.

In those days, a whole family working from sun-up till sundown, six days a week, did well if it earned $19 a week.

But these are new days of a new world. They can't fool Allie Thompson with golden promises; they can't scare her with threats of hells — because she's read something in that old Book that her Lord wants people to live decently and to be treated decently.

The same thing is true of the other mountain folk who are going down from the hills to the lowlands in this new wartime migration which is changing the face of Dixie. Their kin already down there have come back and told them of how wage and living standards have improved since the unions have challenged successfully the South's arrogant and conniving masters. These same kinsmen have told them that the unions got these improvements because it organized white folks and black folks together.

When you tell a mountaineer something, he sits down and figures it out. Because he is an honest man, he generally puts two and two together to make four.

Uncle Bob Cox summed it up pretty neatly the other day when I walked with him down the road. He talked about Allie Thompson's going away, and he talked about this business of big corporations paying low wages.

"I always thought," he said, "that the bigger the hive, the more bees ought to get honey out of it. The Lord made a lot of different kind of bees as he made a lot of different kind of folks. But all them bees, like all them folks, has got to eat. They all got the same mouths — and if you git 'em riled, they all got the same stingers too."

35g-1943

Texas

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

WLB Evens Up White-Negro Pay

Ends Racial Differentials In Texas Oil Plant

WASHINGTON, June 6.—(AP)—The War Labor Board today abolished pay differentials between white and negro workers for a Texas Company, saying in a broad opinion that "economic and political discrimination on account of race, or creed is in line with the Nazi program."

The board directed the Southport Petroleum Company of Texas City, Texas, to give pay increases to negro employes which will "place them on a basis of economic parity with the white workers in the same classification." The board added that "to the credit of the company, this decision" was accepted by the management in good faith and spirit.

The board's opinion, written by Dr. Frank P. Graham, public member and president of the University of North Carolina, said that:

"In this small but significant case the National War Labor Board abolishes the classifications 'colored laborer' and 'white laborer' and reclassifies both simply as 'laborers' with the same rates of pay for all that classification without discrimination on account of color.

"This wage increase is made without regard to the 'little steel' formula, but with regard simply for the Democratic formula of equal pay for work equal in quantity and quality in the same classification. This equalization of ecenomic opportunity is not a violation of the sound American provision of differentials in pay for differences in skills. It is rather a bit of realization of the no less sound American principle of equal pay for equal work as one of the equal rights in the promise of American Democracy regardless of color, race, sex, religion or national origin."

The company was directed to institute a reclassification system and to grant in each classification a wage increase of either five per cent or five cents, whichever is higher. The increases, the board said, will not bring the rates for the Southport field above the minimum bracket prevailing for other fields in the area.

JUN 7 1943

PAY DECISION

Washingtin — The National War Labor Board made public today a decision ordering the Southport Petroleum Co., Texas City, Tex., to grant wage increases to its Negro employees to "place them on a basis of economic parity with the white workers in the same classification."

JUL 22 1943

Dr. Frank P. Graham, member of the board and president of the University of North Carolina, wrote the opinion, which asserted:

EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK

"This equalization of economic opportunity is not a violation of the sound American provision of differentials in pay for differences in skills. It is rather a bit of realization of the no less sound American principle of equal pay for equal work."

The decision specifically directed the company to:

JUL 22 1943

1. Abolish the classifications "colored laborer" and "white laborer" and reclassify all affected workers as laborers.

2. Replace the classification "gate watchmen" with "plant guards," and pay employees involved in the dispute the wage rates paid such guards.

3. Grant, for each classification involved in the case, wage increases of either 5 per cent an hour or 5½ cents an hour, whichever shall result in the higher rate, retroactive to Nov. 11, 1942, the date in which the case was certified.—Chicago Sun.

The Union
Cincinnati, Ohic

NEGROES IN TEXAS FIRM WIN EQUAL

35g-1943

Utah

Lay Plans To Get Negroes More Jobs

Daily-World
Atlanta, Georgia

DEC 9 1943



Last w[illegible] meeting was held at
[illegible] Field Ogden, Utah, in the of-
[illegible]ce of Walter E. Ha[illegible], counsel
nd welfare relations director for
egroes at the field, to discuss
lacing more Negroes in key po.
itions at the air base. Those
resent were; sitting, left to right-
r. D. T. Trammell, .. pastor of
ifth St Baptist Church, Temple,
exas; Dr. Jessie L Connor, pas-
r, Wall Ave. Baptist church,
gden Utah; Walter E. Harrison,
rector welfare and counsel for
egroes,.. Air Service Command
Field, .. Ogden Utah.. Mrs.
B. Cope, private secretary
Mr Harrison. Standing, right to
ft, Miss Ru[illegible]well Timms, co
pervisor of recreation, Rev. J. B
a k e r, missionary-evangelist
kmulgee, Okla.; and Mrs. Rulah
affer, co-supervisor recreation.
(ANP Photo)

35g-1943

Virginia

Portsmouth, Va. Star
June 29, 1943

Tribute Paid Negro Worker

Dies After Honorable Service At Navy Yard

"Pitt" was no ordinary guy. In the years he had worked in the Navy Yard he had become more than a landmark or a laborer and a number on the payroll. He had worked himself up in the esteem of his foreman, Quartermen, Leading men, co-workers as well as the Navy Yard officials. His sudden death last Thursday morning shortly after midnight chocked every one who knew him.

Every supervisor from the foreman down the line has used "Pitt" as an example to his fellow-workers. Regretting his passing, those under whom he worked, nevertheless, were heartened to note that his characterics, honest, capable, and outstanding, have somehow marked themselves on the others of his race who worked with him and knew him.

Foreman, Quartermen, and Leadingmen have raised $75.00 and the co-workers of "Pitt" have contributed $115 with the request that Mr. Whitman, Master Mechanic of Labor and Transportation of the Supply Department present the combined purse to Mrs. Alice Harris, Pitt's next of kin.

Lt. (SC) Harvey B. Blanton, J. F. Whitman and P. A. Stainback, Chief Quarterman presented the money together with a letter of appreciation to Mrs. Alice Harris at her home, 404 Virginia avenue, with whom James Pitt has made his home in recent years. Moses Pitt, a brother, was on hand. Alice Harris, her face a strange pattern of conflicting emotions, choking back tears expressed her thanks to Mr. Whitman asking him to convey her appreciation to the men who paid such a tribute to the late James Pitt, her brother.

In sharp contrast to the recent race disturbances in Detroit this mutual respect and appreciation of white overseers, and colored employees of the yard stands out as a monument in the field of intra-racial relations, sets a definite milestone for other understandings and future contacts to aim for.

Rome, Ga., News-Tribune
July 15, 1943

Negro Workers to Get Equal Pay By WLB Order

ATLANTA, July 15.—(AP)—Negro and white workers in the plants of the Sylvania Corporaton of Fredericksburg, Va., will receive equal pay rates under an order issued by the War Labor Board.

The WLB, acting at the request of the Sylvania management, authorized the company, Regional Chairman M. T. Van Hecke said, to increase the pay of negro laborers, retroactive to March 29, 1943.

The board followed a precedent set in June when the Southwest Petroleum Company of Texas City, Texas, was ordered to equalize white and negro wage rates.

Farmville, Va. Herald
October 1, 1943

Aged Negro Repays Compensation Money

Edward Smith, Negro, 70, was found guilty in the Trial Justice Court last Monday morning of a charge of receiving unemployment payments, after he had returned to work. He was employed at the Dunnington Tobacco Company's plant. The case was investigated by W. P. Smith, fraudulant claim investigator for the Unemployment Compensation Commission.

Judge John F. Lewis heard the evidence and decreed the aged Negro guilty. The court fined him the cost of the case, and dismissed the case when the amount illegally received was repaid.

There are a number of similar cases being investigated at various points throughout the state.

Negro Pupils To Begin Work At Army Depot

Richmond, Va. Times-Dispatch
November 22, 1943

In an effort to do their part for the war effort, 35 Negro youths from the Virginia Union University, Maggie Walker High School and Armstrong High School will begin working as laborers this afternoon at the Richmond Army Service Forces Depot.

The youths were given physical examinations at the depot yesterday afternoon by the depot surgeon, Major John B. Skurkay, and Lieutenant W. W. Cleere, contract surgeon. The examination was a prerequisite to employment at the post.

An appeal for additional workers at the depot at Bellwood was made through the schools recently by Harold W. DeWitt, supervising interviewer for the colored division of the United States Employment Service in Richmond. This was done because of the urgent need of additional laborers at the large supply center here.

In accordance with government regulations, the youths will work four hours a day, eight hours on Saturdays and holidays, or 28 hours per week. They begin work at 5 P. M. on week days.

This is the first time school boys have been used for laborers at the depot.

"These boys are eager to do their part in the war effort and at the same time are earning extra money to help with their expenses while in school," it was pointed out by Lieutenant-Colonel James L. Salisbury, director of personnel at the depot.

4,000 Jobs in Richmond, Va., Go a Begging

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland
OCT 23 1943

Reason Is Unskilled Labor Pay Is Still 70 Cents an Hour

SERVANTS PAID $15 FOR 8-10 HOUR DAY

Male Cooks $30, Mechanics $40, Men Chauffeur $22

RICHMOND — Because unskilled labor is from 50 to 70 cents an hour here, 4,000 jobs are vacant.

George T. League, business representative of the Mason Tenders' Building and General Construction Laborers' Local 789, says that laborers get 70 cents an hour in critical areas in Virginia and 92 cents in Maryland and the District of Columbia.

Higher pay has taken thousands of laborers who commute to Newport News and other places in Tidewater in Virginia daily.

Situation Acute

The situation here has become so tight that building contractors are paying time for nine hours when they work eight, or ten when they work nine, or just giving workers two pay envelopes with an extra 10 cents per hour in one, plus whatever overtime they have made.

Dr. William Ferguson of the U.S. Employment Service reports many laborers on their way to jobs never arrive because they get other offers before they can leave the building where they register.

Many employers are upgrading men now in order to raise pay and keep them. The U.S. Employment Service has ceased handling calls for domestic workers. It does, however, furnish maids, porters, and attendants for hospitals, stores and other establishments.

Domestic workers are handled by the city employment, Quality Employment service and the Urban League.

F.D.'s Order Ignored

Richmond Engineering Corporation, DuPont and Tredegar Iron Works have a general policy of denying colored workers skilled jobs and probably have not thought much about the President's order on fair employment.

Male and female welders trained at Walker High School here go to work at plants elsewhere.

Many older workers at Tredegar perform skilled tasks, but fail to get ratings.

Pay of Domestics Jumps

Women doing domestic work have been [illegible] jump from an average of $6 a week to $14 weekly since 1940.

Some employed as cooks in restaurants, earn $15 to $18 weekly, whereas the same places pay male cooks from $30 to $45 a week.

Richmond women have begun to invade a number of new fields.

Russell Weil Distributing Company, which repairs auto distributors for the army, has only two white women. Others are colored. They draw 54 cents an hour.

Women Rail Workers

D[illegible] M. Lea, manufacturer of shell boxes, uses women at nailing and boring machines and pays 46 cents an hour. The R. F. and P. Railway is using colored women as station cleaners, carmen and engine cleaners, oilers and window washers.

All the bottling companies are using women principally at $20 to $25 a week.

Winslow and Company, a feed concern, pays bag sewers 50 cents an hour.

Miller Manufacturing Company uses women to sand shell boxes and pays 35 cents an hour.

Jobs as elevator operators, cleaners in stores and banks and as needle workers in stores are open at from $12 to $20 a week. Soda fountains, restaurants and other places of that type offer jobs as attendants and waitresses.

Drug Store Barrier Falls

At Grant's Drug Store, colored women are night clerks and ring the cash register.

Their jobs at establishments catering [illegible] service men range from dishwasher to photo machine operator.

In Department Stores—Hush

At one small Broad Street clothing store they work as clerks and at another big department store two are reported working as complaint clerks and one as a billing clerk.

These stores, of course, shy at any publicity.

Pay for these jobs range from $15 to $25 a week.

$15 for Servants

Domestics receive a minimum of $9 weekly and pay averages about $15. Hours have been cut from eleven and twelve to as low as eight in many cases.

Advertisements calling for women chauffeurs have appeared recently. Two women are working as chauffeurs for a diaper service at $22.50 a week.

While the larger advance in pay has been by women here under war conditions, men working in garages and stores with ratings as porters, helpers and laborers have found themselves upgraded.

From 45 and 50 cents an hour their pay has been boosted as high as 70 to 90 cents in some cases.

In order to keep men who have been doing auto repairs, painting or other skilled work, their employers have begun giving them job classifications and pay more suited to their abilities.

Stores Lose Fears

Stores no longer seem to fear calling [illegible] a shipping clerk instead of porter and pay of these workers has risen from $15 and $18 to $20 and $25.

Some employers advertise occasionally for colored shoe repair men, carpenters and garage mechanics, with pay ranging up to $40 a week.

Boys who work part-time are paying income taxes now, what with plenty of jobs as telegraph messengers, porters, deliverymen, waiters, dishwashers and handymen. They earn $10 to $18, depending on the jobs and the time they have available.

Girls Get $9 to $15

Girls from 13 to 20 years old working as hotel, hospital and store maids or as counter or kitchen assistants earn from $9 to $15 a week.

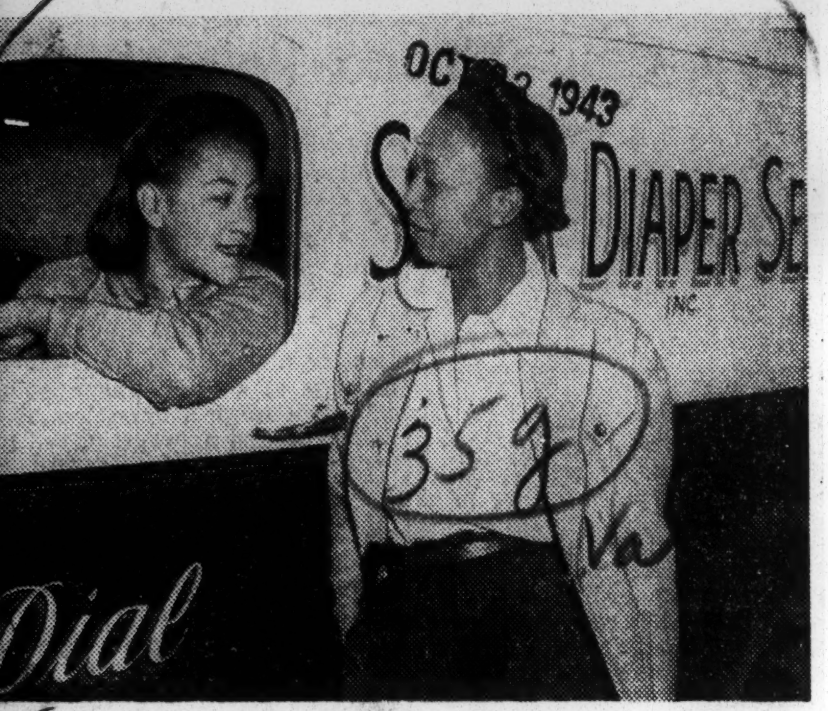
The city employment service reports that men with handicaps ranging from one leg to partial paralysis find all the work they want as day workers and itinerant cleaners and handymen.

Their hourly pay ranges from 35 to 50 cents, and many of them earn more by working on contract basis.

Very old colored women are the only ones who are not wanted for jobs, according to the city employment service.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Women in War Times



These women are truck drivers for a Richmond diaper service, and are holding jobs formerly held by men. They are Miss Edna Jones (left) and Mrs. Julia W. Jackson. Miss Jones began as a driver on March 3 and Mrs. Jackson on January [illegible]. The whole plant is operated by women except for a fireman. The drivers [illegible] replaced men now in military service or war work, get $22.50 [illegible] week.

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.



VETERAN WORKER COMMENDED—Edgar D. Amaker, supervisor in the dispatch unit of ordnance mail and records, War Department, Washington, recently completed 28 years of continuous service with the Army Service Forces. He is being congratulated by (left to right) Major Gen. Levin H. Campbell, Jr., chief of ordnance; Col. Walter C. Pew, Major B. L. Geist, and Lt. Col. E. G. Schmidt. (U. S. Army Photo from OWI)

35g-1943

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

LAUNDRIES OPEN DOORS

MAR 10 1943

MAR 10 1943

Last year the Northwest Enterprise was reliably informed there were many experienced laundry workers in and adjacent to Seattle, none was able to secure employment because of race, despite our personal appeal.

During a conversation today (Wednesday) with Manager Madden of the Troy laundry he said: "We have been trying to open our employment department to any capable applicant without regard to race or creed. Today, reassured by the unions, 64% of whom are race women, and our entire perosnal, our only priority is experience. In working conditions we all share and share alike."

The Northwest Enterprise accepted the Troy advertisement only after it had been assured those qualifying would be accepted and positively no restriction in working conditions.

Experienced laundry workers wishing to follow their vocation will find the way open.



SEP

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

Margaret Johnson

Margaret Johnson Promoted at Boeing

Margaret J. Johnson has been promoted by Boeing Aircraft as a secretary in the Engineering Department. Out of 2300, Margaret is the only race member of the Engineering Records Unit. She was a former employee in Shop 105, but her ability as a typist was finally recognized and she was given this position which better fits her talent. Her friends are proud of her elevation. We are all proud of you, Margaret, and wish you Good Luck! Margaret is the niece of Mrs. Corinne Wilson of Everett and Mrs. T. O. Riley of this city.

SEP 18 1943

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Washington

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

HASKELL CAMPBELL RACE EMPLOYEE PAVES WAY FOR FUTURE SECURITY

OCT 21 1943

Haskell Campbell, a trusted employees of Pan American Airways, has been a resident of Seattle since 1919. He attended Roosevelt and Garfield schools, graduating from Garfield High. He served five years as secretary of the YMCA. He succeeded Bill Wilson as editor and publisher of the Northwest Enterprise. About four years ago he entered the service of Pan American Airways as a cleaner. He steadily advanced to his present position.

In an interview with the editor of the Northwest Enterprise, Campbell said: "About three and a half years ago I sought and found employment at Pan American Airways. Working conditions were ideal, fellow employees and management congenial. In all my life I never saw members of my race work under such favorable conditions. Of a certainty, Pan American Airways is the only institution I know where race, creed or color is of no moment. No better family relations exist than among Pan American Airways employees. Social affairs is the best test of a democracy. There you may eat, dance and share all their enjoyments. Your opportunities for advancement are paced only by your ability.

"You begin as a cleaner. You alone are master of your future. Your advancement is not confined to any department. If you are mechanically inclined, you have the opportunity to learn while you earn."

Have any others advanced since you entered Pan American?

"Yes. Clarence Jack, a two-year employee is now leadman in my department. Mrs. Theresa B. Smith began as a cleaner and is now a mechanic's helper in the metal shop."

NO PERMIT CARDS HERE

May any employee join the union or must you have a "permit" to work?

"We have our own union. I am a charter member. You enjoy all the benefits of the best regulated union in the world."

Do you make any provision for workers' meals?

"You bet. No better meals in Seattle than are served at our luncheteria at the most reasonable prices."

Will our air-minded youngsters have an opportunity to learn to fly?

"Yes, every opportunity is offered not only to learn to fly, but teach students to make their machines fit to fly. You see, Pan American Airways is the largest commercial airline in the world today and is daily growing larger. It is no war institution lasting for the duration, but will expand every year of its existence."



HASKELL CAMPBELL

PAN AMERICAN WANTS YOU

How many employees do you need now?

"We can use 20 or more right now—men and women.

"We prefer to recruit our force from Seattle rather than seek outside aid. We want dependable men and women who have responsibilities. While our wage scale does not equal some other industries we are able to offer far better future security than any other industry in or out of Seattle. Your future being secure, it is much better in the end."

OCT 21 1943

Well, Mr. Campbell, your institution deserves what you want. We are going to aid you in getting 20 good men and women.

TWO GUILTY OF PEONAGE FREED

Defender
Chicago. Ill

WASHINGTON (ANP) — Found guilty of violating the federal civil rights, slavery and peonage statutes, sentenced to five and three years, respectively, and handed $500 fines each, two white men [illegible] their sentences [illegible] and themselves put on probation.

That was the justice meted in the district court at Mobile, Ala., in the cases of O'Neal Bodiford and Ralph McGough.

Atty. Gen. Francis Biddle announced the decisions and some details of the cases last week.

Bodiford and McGough were first arrested by the Alabama state police when they were returning from Fort Minetta, Ala., to Bodiford's farm, carrying with them in their car Luther Carter, their victim.

Carter, a Negro, had left Bodiford's farm to work in a sawmill. The two convicted men went to the mill, seized and beat Carter, and carried him off by force in their car. The case was reported to the civil rights section of the [illegible]ment of justice by the sawmill operator from who[illegible] property Carter had been kidnapped.

Tom C. Clark, head of the criminal division of justice, supervised the investigation of the case, and Albert J. Tully, United States attorney for the southern district of Alabama, handled the prosecution.

This is the third peonage or slavery conviction which has been obtained by the department in the current year in the south. The first was in Texas and the second in Mississippi. In all three cases, successful prosecution has been due largely to the cooperation and interest of local officials and citizens, the announcement said.

Escaped Peon Sues Sheriff

New York, N. Y.
Amsterdam News

Asks $10,000 in Damages From Official and Bonding Company

OCT 9 1943

CHICAGO, (ANP) — Suit to recover $10,000 damages against acting Sheriff Hale Jackson of Mississippi county, Ark., and the American Bonding Company of Baltimore was filed in U. S. District court last week by Atty. William Henry Juff on behalf of James Buchanan, who charges he was held in a state of peonage from November, 19, 1942, until the latter part of February, 1943, by Jackson and his deputy. Buchanan escaped and made his way to Chicago after being held in involuntary servitude for a period of 13 weeks.

According to the brief filed by Huff, his client was taken into custoday by Jackson on November 19, 1942, without legal warrant and lodged in jail for five weeks thus depriving him of "his rights and privileges as a citizen of the United States," and in violation of the "privileges as a citizen of the United States" and immunities for equal rights of citizens of the United States of persons within the jurisdiction of the United States."

After the five week period in jail Buchanan, it is charged, was turned over to Jackson's deputy, one Rainmiller, on the condition that the plaintiff "would remain with the said Rainmiller for the duration of his life without pay or compensation, and that the plaintiff would assist the said Rainmiller in construction of a house for himself and family." The petition states that Buchanan was forced, with the knowledge and consent of Sheriff Jackson, to labor without pay or compensation and was held in involuntary servitude by Rainmiller under aegis of the cheriff until he escaped.

The American Bonding Company was held equally liable by Huff who said that the securer of a $5,000 bond on Jackson to insure faithful discharge of his duites "knew or by use of reasonable diligence should have known" of the wrongs committed by the sheriff.

Peonage Victim Sues Ark. Sheriff

Defender Chicago, Ill
OCT 9 1943

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After the five-week period in jail Buchanan, it is charged was turned over to Jackson's deputy, one Rainmiller, on the condition that the plaintiff "would remain with the said Rainmiller in construction of a house for himself and family." The petition states that Buchanan was forced, with the knowledge and consent of Sheriff Jackson, to labor without pay or compensation until he escaped.

Labor Fight In Court

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

CIO Union Accuses Florida Of 'Slaveocracy' Practice

ORLANDO, Fla., Sept 2 (ANP)—"Florida's slaveocracy is still alive," said members of the Citrus and Allied Workers' union, CIO, when they investigated the arrest of Otis Nation, leader of the union.

Nation was formally arrested on a charge of doing business as an immigrant agent without a license, when his activities actually consisted of his supplying the War Manpower Commission with a list of names of unemployed union members who might be referred to jobs in Camden, N. J., to break a labor shortage threatening to destroy a tomato crop.

Nation, who is slated to appear before a jury during the week of September 13, is now at liberty under a $2,000 bond.

WORKERS WERE JOBLESS

Reports say that 438 Negro workers who made the trip despite citrus growers' and shippers' threats are busily packing tomatoes in Camden, mostly for the Army. They will return here October 1, expenses paid by the Campbell company. All of this is going on while Florida's Attorney General, Tom Watson, goes on preparing a case against Nation.

An article appearing in the Orlando Morning Sentinel, revealed that the newspaper regards any attempt to direct idle manpower to work out of the state as "labor theft." The labor theft concept is said to acquire special significance when it is recalled that all the 438 workers now in Camden are Negroes. All were previously unemployed.

MINSTREL CARTOON

A picture in the Sentinel depicts a minstrel show type Negro holding a hoe, labeled "that old steady job right here at home." The Daily Worker states that in contrast to this cartoon, is presented a "labor racketeer" holding a balloon full of "hot air" and a valise labelled "carpet bag tricks," and tells him: "Look Brother, we'll give you the whole world with a fence around it and you can sit on the fence."

It is explained that the most stirring reminder that the Nation case represents a move by a stubborn slaveocracy, is the cartoon's characterization of the door leading to Camden as "entrance to a Northbound train," that under the same cartoon also appear pictures of the Negro in winter, broken by his Camden experiences, and forced to walk back on railroad ties. The picture carries the title, "The Primrose Path and the Long Road Back."

WIN CIO CONTEST

The Citrus and Allied Workers' union, which Nation heads, said to be affiliated with the CIO, and has gained 4,000 new members here since last December, won the first CIO contract in the state, and succeeded in getting raises and advancing the unity of Negro and white.

The state of Florida is said to be adhering to the method of restricting labor's flow to out-of-the-state war jobs, in order to maintain a consistent labor surplus, to keep wages down, and to "protect" a long-time underpaid labor group from contact with more advanced and better paid workers elsewhere.

The case is said to bring to the fore the anti-war, anti-administration prejudices of sections of the most reactionary groupings who are trying to use the Nation arrest to drive the WMC out of the state.

White Peonage Case Is Heard In Savannah, Ga.

Globe & Independent
Nashville, Tenn.
DEC 25 1943

Procurer Of Women For Immoral Service Nabbed By Federal Government

Savannah, Ga., Dec. 9—(ANP)—The first peonage case in Georgia history in which all principals were white, got under way in federal district court, Tuesday, when a woman witness testified that J. T. Pierce, tavern operator, had secured her release from state prison and forced her to work in his roadhouse and fill dates with men.

Pierce is charged with violating the peonage statute in an indictment returned last month. He is alleged to have held 11 women and girls "in a condition of peonage" by compelling them against their will to work as waitresses, hostesses and clerks. He denied the charges at a preliminary hearing.

The first witness, Rosa [illegible] said Pierce came to the prison at Reidsville and paid vagrancy fines for herself and her sister, Polly Melton, on condition that they work for him until the fines were repaid. She said Pierce beat her and forced both her sister and herself to fill dates with men. She left the roadhouse on occasions, she said, but was "afraid" not to return because her sister was still there.

Tattnall State prison to serve as waitresses in his roadhouse. that he would not allow the women [illegible] others to leave the premises and that he forced them to date men customers.

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.
DEC 25 1943

Charged With Peonage; Given Stiff Sentence

SAVANNAH (ANP) — Sentenced to 18 months and fined $500 [illegible] counts, Joel T. Pierce, white, was sentenced Friday to 10½ years' imprisonment and fined $3,500 on charges of peonage following a trial which Fed. Judge Archibald Lovett of the Southern Georgia district described as the "most sordid."

In sentencing Pierce, the judge said he had found not one single good item in the entire report on the man. The government contended that Pierce obtained two white women from

35h-1943 Tribune
Savannah, Ga.

GEORGIA

PEONAGE BROUGHT HOME

The horrors of peonage have been suffered by our people of untold years since the ones of actual servitude. Following the days of emancipation, a certain class of farm owners failed to realize that it was not legal to force any one to labor without consent or compensation. Taking advantage of the ignorance of the freedmen and their readiness to follow the direction of the white man they were forced into servitude, many of them believing that in the course of time they would be reimbursed for their labor. In bitter disappointment they awoke to find that they were peons. Being unable to defend themselves, thousands of them died as untold slaves. A few of them escaped this bondage and an untold number died in the attempt to do so. In a more or less state this form of servitude continues even to the present. Cases have been presented to the courts in behalf of those who were alleged to be held, but on account of proper evidence the accused were allowed to continue their inhuman traffic. Ever so often reports have been made of existing cases. The influence of the ones accused and inability to procure proper evidence have all been in their favor. Surrounding these accused are those who are able to assist in their conviction, but their [illegible] care for a fellow human being cause them to remain dormant. A modern case of peonage presented itself in this section recently. This time a white man was accused of holding several white women in peonage. This was in our adjoining county, in fact across the Ogeechee river in Bryan county and on the popular highway to the south. This white man truly "reckoned [illegible] without his host." He found out differently on the day of his trial. Instead of the case being brought in the state court where it is stated that the accused had influence. Jurisdiction was gained in the Federal Court where the FBI men had to do with it. Added interest was given the case because the morals of the white women were concerned. From the evidence they were forced to remain in bondage not only to serve customers, but to be contacted socially. Substantial evidence was submitted. It was blushingly received by those who are not used to life on the seamy side. After due season after indictment the accused was tried in the District Court of the United States last week. It is regretted to say, out of the influence of the county and state courts where it is stated the accused has a degree of dominance, he was convicted on several counts calling for five years each and fine of five thousand dollars on each count.

For the accused, the irony of all is that a colored man was a member of the jury and discharged his duty in a true and just manner. It is not out of the usual for this court to call colored men to service. It was especially so under Judge Speer and continued by the present judge who is without peer.

BEATEN AND HELD 'SLAVE'



Defender
Chicago, Ill.

HERSCHEL BOOKER
Fifty-five-year-old houseman who pleaded with police to lock him up after his escape from virtual slavery in the home for the aged run by Mrs. Agnes Peele. He said he worked for five years without pay and without a single day off.

Servant Held 'Slave' In Chicago Home For Aged

A sensational story of virtual slavery for five years in the heart of Chicago was told Thursday to Town Hall police by an "escaped" crippled servant of the notorious Mrs. Agnes Peele.

He was 55-year-old Herschel Booker who scaled a back yard fence at the so-called Aristocrat Home for the Aged and then appealed to police to lock him up because of his fear of Mrs. Peele.

Mrs. Peele is being questioned by police in connection with the deaths of two patients after their removal from her home for the aged.

Five Years Without Pay

Booker said he escaped from the home at 566 Stratford place after being held virtual prisoner there since July 28. He was forced to work without pay and without a single day off in five years.

He was kept in the basement with some chickens with his only escape through Mrs. Peele's quarters. His imprisonment began when he got a social security card last month, he charged. Mrs. Peele found it Wednesday, took it from him and beat him up.

Despite his peg leg, the Negro houseman managed to escape and made his way to police to whom he appealed to "hide and protect" him. Police locked him up at his own request and took steps to question Mrs. Peele.

Maid Hits Cruelty

Other charges against the keeper of the home for the aged were filed by a Negro maid, Miss Mattie Green, 46, of 4720 S. State street, who fled the home two weeks ago, complaining she was mistreated and never paid by Mrs. Peele.

She charged that inmates of the home were starved and cruelly treated by Mrs. Peele.

Booker, in asking police to lock him up, told Capt. William Drury of the Town Hall Station:

"After the trouble out at the home, Mrs. Peele wouldn't allow me to leave the place. She made me sleep in the basement with the chickens and nailed the door shut so I couldn't get out."

Telling how she discovered his social security card, he continued:

"She beat me with her fists, hitting me hard in the face and chest. And she told me when her son got home, she'd have him beat me real good. So I watched for a chance and hobbled away through the back yard."

ADMITS GUILT IN 3 CHARGES OF PEONAGE

Bee

Chicago. Ill

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 30—The Department of Justice announced this week that Donald Castle, a sawmill operator in Lauderdale county, Miss., pleaded guilty on September 21 to a peonage indictment involving Rosey Wyse, a Negro.

OCT 3- 1943

Arraigned before Federal Judge Sidney C. Miles, at Meridian, Miss., and prosecuted by United States Attorney Toxey Hall, Castle admitted three violations of the Civil Rights Statutes in shipping and holding Wyse in peonage at Castle's sawmill in December, 1942. Judge Mize accepted the guilty plea and announced that Castle will be sentenced at a later date.

The indictment, three counts, was returned by a Federal Grand Jury at Meridian on March 16, 1943, following and F. B. I. investigation of a complaint filed by a state official that Castle had seized Wyse from a farm where he was employed, "shackled him to a bed with a log chain about his neck," and forced him to work against his will.

OCT 3- 1943

The three counts of the indictment charged that Castle carried Wyse away with the intent that he be held as a slave and caused him to be held as a slave in violation of Section 443, Title 18, U. S. C., and that Castle held Wyse in a state of peonage, in violation of Section 444, Title 18, U. S. C. Each count of the indictment is punishable by a maximum sentence of five years.

Assistant U. S. Attorney Stewart C. Brown assisted Mr. Hall in the prosecution of the case.

Fined $500 For Miss. Peonage

Defender

Chicago. Ill

OCT 9-1943

MERIDIAN, Miss. (ANP)—Donald Castle, Lauderdale county, a sawmill operator, was fined $500 in federal court here last week upon his conviction of peonage charges.

Judge Sidney Mise imposed sentence after the mill operator had pleaded guilty. The court suspended a two-year jail term and placed Castle on two years probation.

OCT 9 1943

2 Indicted For Peonage In Alabama

Age
New York, N. Y.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Attorney General Francis Biddle announced Monday that a Federal Grand Jury at Mobile, Ala., has returned an indictment charging O'Neal Bodiford and Ralph McGaugh, of Fort Deposit, Ala., with violations of the civil rights, slavery and peonage statutes in the holding of Luther Carter, Negro farm hand, in involuntary servitude.

The indictment states that Carter left Bodiford's farm to work for a sawmill operator at Bay Minette, Ala. On April 13, 1943, it is alleged, the defendants went to the sawmill where they beat Carter and forced him into their automobile with the intention of returning him to Bodiford's farm to work out an alleged debt. They were arrested by State Police en route.

The three counts of the indictment charge, respectively, (1) a conspiracy to deprive Carter of his civil rights in violation of Section 51, Title 18, U. S. Code; (2) kidnapping a person to be held as a slave in violation of Section 443, Title 18, U. S. Code; and (3) the holding of a person in peonage in violation of Section 444, Title 18, U. S. Code. Maximum penalties prescribed are a fine of $5,000 and imprisonment for ten years, or both, under the first count, and a fine of $5,000 and imprisonment for five years, or both under each of the two remaining counts.

The indictment followed investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation of a complaint filed by Carter's employer at the sawmill.

The case was presented to the Grand Jury by Albert J. Tully, U. S. Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama.

Atty. Gen. Francis Biddle announced the decisions and some details of the cases last week.

Where Arrested

Bodiford and McGough were first arrested by the Alabama state police when they were returning from Minetta, Ala., to Bodiford's farm, carrying with them in their car Luther Carter, their victim.

Carter, a Negro, had left Bodiford's farm to work in a sawmill. The two convicted men went to the mill, seized and beat Carter, and carried him off by force in their car. The case was reported to the civil rights section of the department of justice by the sawmill operator from whose property Carter had been kidnapped.

Tom C. Clark, head of the criminal division of justice, supervised the investigation of the case, and Albert J. Tully, United States attorney for the southern district of Alabama.

Third 'Slavery' Conviction

This is the third peonage slavery conviction which has been obtained by the department in the current year in the south. The first was in Texas and the second in Mississippi. In all three cases, successful prosecution has been due largely to the cooperation and interest of local officials, Biddle the announcement said.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y

Convict Two For Peonage

WASHINGTON (ANP) — Found guilty of violating the federal civil rights, slavery and peonage statutes, sentenced to five and three years, respectively, and handed $500 fines each, two white men had their sentences suspended and themselves were put on probation. That was the justice meted in the district court at Mobile, Ala., in the cases of O'Neal Bodiford and Ralph McGaugh.

351-1943
The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Alabama

Union Leaders Smash Frameup of Ala. Negro

MAY 13 1943

(Special to the Daily Worker)

MAY 13 1943

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., May 12.—A frame-up against John Redmon, young Negro ore miner, was smashed when a delegation of white union leaders of the Woodward local of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers intervened.

Redmon was arrested on the charge that he called out to a white girl, using her first name. Redmon contended that it was a case of mistaken identity.

Redmon was held in jail for two weeks without a trial, although he had been called up by his draft board. When the union got busy and sent a delegation to the authorities, things began to happen, and Johnny Redmon was released.

City Of Mobile Heavily Patrolled

MAY 26 1943

MOBILE, ALA., May 25.—(AP)—Mobile was heavily patrolled tonight following a shipyard racial disorder which resulted in upwards of 7,000 negro workers being called from their jobs throughout the city.

MAY 26 1943

Three companies of State Guards stood on "the alert" under orders of Governor Chauncey Sparks awaiting a call in event of a spread of the disorder which resulted in eight men being injured at the Alabama Drydock and Shipbuilding Company.

The disturbance, Police Chief D. E. McFadyen said, occurred when negro welders were assigned to work on the same job with white welders. Police quelled the outbreak and the plant resumed operations after sending home all negro employes.

White workers on the 3:30 p.m. shift were on their jobs this afternoon, according to a statement by D. R. Dunlap, company president.

MAY 26 1943

Work Continues

"Work is continuing in the yards and will continue without interruption," Dunlap's statement read. "Arrangements have been made to guard the yard with ample force and military personnel, if necessary. No further trouble is expected."

Brig. Gen. James A. Mollison, commanding general at the Mobile air depot here, announced late in the day that "an adequate number of United States troops have been moved into the shipyard to protect government property and to prevent interference with the war effort."

General Mollison declined to say how many soldiers were on guard, but said they will remain in the shipyard until all threat of damage to government property is past.

Montgomery, Ala.

Company spokesmen would not estimate the number of negroes sent away, but Frank Jones, president of the Central Trades Council of Mobile, said he had ordered all negro members of A. F. of L. unions throughout the city to leave their jobs as a protective move, and said there were 7,000 of these. CIO unions are the recognized bargaining agents at the shipyard, and private sources estimated the number of negroes sent away at "several thousand."

Advertiser

Meanwhile, Charles Hanson, regional director of the CIO Industrial union and Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, declared that the disturbance "was wholly unnecessary."

"We claim," he said in a statement, "that some agitators started it in an attempt to sabotage the war effort. It was a great day for Hitler and the Mikado."

Other Precautions

Other precautions taken against a spread of the disorders, with city officials concentrating their efforts at the time the day shift left the plant, included the closing of all State-owned liquor stores in Mobile and Baldwin Counties on order of Governor Sparks, and the banning of beer and other alcoholic beverage sales in Mobile by Mayor Charles A. Baumhauer.

A small contingent of soldiers was sent from Brookley Field when the disturbance first started, and they stood guard at the plant. Governor Sparks, however, said he probably would use State Guards rather than army troops in event any situation developed which local authorities could not handle. He sent 25 State highway patrolmen to Mobile immediately upon learning of the disorder.

While Chief McFayden said he understood the disturbance started as a protest of white welders about having negro welders assigned to work with them. The company said there were no negro welders on the day shift, but some had been assigned on the night shift. A company investigation was started to determine if this was the cause of the trouble.

Of the eight men injured, seven were negroes. All were given first aid at the shipyard, and injuries were not regarded as serious, company officials said. McFayden said about 25 men in all were involved in the disturbance.

MAY 26 1943

351-1943

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Union Delegates Meet in Atlanta: Discuss Labor's Part in the War Program

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

200 Negroes Are Among 3,000 Who Particiate; Urge Equal Rights for All Regardless of Color or Creed

JAN 29 1943

BY WILLIAM Y. BELL

ATLANTA. — (ANP) — After getting under way in an atmosphere charged with apprehension by Negro labor leaders about the treatment Negro delegates might expect, the Southern War Labor conference of the American Federation of Labor and the War Production board's labor division closed its two-day meeting here Sunday, January 17, with statements calling for equal rights of all in labor regardless of race or color and repeal of the poll tax as a condition of voting.

More than 200 Negroes were represented among the 3,000 AFL labor men who gathered from 12 southern states to discuss "Southern Labor's Part in the War Program."

The conference opened with Negro delegates raising the question about seating arrangements, since many feared they would be restricted to the balcony of the city auditorium where the sessions were held. This problem was met somewhat by segregating Negro delegates on the right side of the auditorium's main floor, although they were not forced to enter a jim crow door.

Seated On Platform

At the firse conference session held Saturday morning Negro delegates were again apprehensive when they saw upwards of 40 prominent representatives seated on the platform but with no Negroes among them. After some protest this was corrected Saturday afternoon when five Negro AFL officials were given seats on the platform, two of them sitting on the front row. Negroes also occupied the platform during the rest of the conference.

A plea for fairness and tolerance was voiced by the Rev. W. M. Jones, Negro district vice president of the International Longshoremen's association, Atlantic and Gulf Coast district, as he addressed the closing session of the conference. Praising the AFL, Rev. Jones said that Negroes were seeking only the rights given by the U. S. constitution and urged white friends to go up the road together with Negro workers.

JAN 29 1943

White Unionist Urges Fair Play

J. R. Weyler, general representative of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners and chairman of the policy committee, became the conference's white spokesman for the rights of Negro AFL workers when he warned the entire conference that the CIO will certainly take in those Negro workers who are not given a fair deal in the AFL.

He advised white workers to make up their minds to be fair to their brothers in the union movement and stated that a Negro who could do a job as well as the next man should be given a chance at it.

The policy committee of the conference, which included 10 Negro delegates, refused to adopt three of the four statements drawn up by three-fourths of the Negro delegates at a special meeting held Saturday afternoon at the Butler Street Y. M. C. A.

Committee on Race Relations

With only one dissenting vote the Negro delegates asked the conference to recommend the establishment of a Committee on Race Relations to the AFL executive board, the job of the committee being to consider how Negro labor could be used more effectively in the war program and to expand interracial goodwill within the AFL.

The Negro delegates also urged the conference to recommend efforts on the AFL Executive board to secure Negro representative on policy forming groups and staffs of regional agencies such as the WMC, WPB, OPA, WLB, Social Security board, wage and hour administration, OWI, etc.

The policy commitee also ignored a request from the Negro delegates aimed to have the AFL Executive board take a position on the disregard for national selective service policy shown by local draft boards drafting both white and Negro workers with children before others with fewer dependents have been taken.

The Negro delegates reminded the policy committee in their statement that since Negro workers in the south easily form 40 per cent of the working force, the interest of Negro labor must be considered. "One-tenth of the United States, one-third of this southland cannot be overlooked if America is to win this war. We are Americans, too."

JAN 29 1943

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Frank P. Fenton, AFL director of organizations, erstwhile member of the FEPC, said that he had dedicated his life to fighting against the abuses of America. "A man, just because his skin is black, should not be discriminated against. There is not a white God or a black God—there is just one. The Negroes feel the same as the white man and should be treated the same.

"Discriminatory unions must learn that Negroes must be in the labor movement or they will be outside. There can be no decent wage system with one for white and one for colored."

He took several cracks at FEPC saying that it should not work on picayune problems of individual discrimination but should tackle the broad southern problem of how to get Negro labor out of the south and into the nation's factories.

JAN 29 1943

More Booker T.'s

He urged Negroes to try to get more leaders of the Booker T. Washington type, "who will sacrifice for you instead of trying to get you into other organizations and using you for their own purpose." He told them not to criticize other people but to "do your rights on the basis of justice."

Also present at the special Negro delegates meeting were Cy W. Record, FEPC field representative, who reviewed some of the accomplishments of the committee in the south which admitting the difficulties under which it had worked; George Streater, of the WPB Labor division, who gave sound advice on how Negroes might strengthen their labor movement and George W. Milner, second vice president of the International Longshoreman association.

JAN 29 1943

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Among the prominent Negro AFL officials attending the conference were Cornelius Maiden, general organizer; R. F. Finkley, vice president Alabama State federationand organizer; George W. Milner, second vice president of International Longshoremen's association; and James Hampton, vice president of the Alabama State Federation of Labor.

Historic Dixie AFL Parley Asks Full Job Equality For Negroes In Industry

Chicago Defender
ATLANTA, Ga. — (Special) — History was made in the deep South this week when more than 3,000 AFL delegates—white and Negro—from 12 Dixie states adopted a resolution at the Southern War Labor Conference of the AFL demanding a halt to racial discrimination in industry.

The delegates, meeting in the very heart of the southland, represented a complete cross-section of the powerful AFL labor movement below the Mason and Dixon line. Some 300 were Negro. It was considered one of the most important gatherings in the South since the war began and was addressed by AFL President William Green.

The declaration was drafted by a policy committee composed of the presidents and secretaries of 12 state federations, an equal number of international officers and nine Negro AFL leaders.

Decries Hullabaloo

Sentiments of the entire parley were expressed after the vote by "Uncle Bob" Weyler, Southern representative of the Carpenters' union and chairman of the policy committee, who told the delegates: "I am a Southerner by birth and by choice, and I have been scandalized for 40 years as I went up and down the South by the hullaballoo raised against Negroes on jobs.

Cites CIO Stand

"We took the Negro by the hand and pulled him up out of the ditch. And we had to. If we hadn't, he would have caught us by the coat tail and pulled us back into the ditch with him."

He declared that the question of social equality was not involved.

"The CIO takes in the Negroes and makes us like it," he said. "We are going to take them in and make everybody like it."

Earlier this question had been dealt with by Dan Ring, director of labor relations for the National Maritime commission. "Some people say this is a delicate question which shouldn't be discussed espe-

Job Policy

Probably the most significant action of the conference was the forthright stand taken on the question of policy toward Negro workers. A strong demand for the abolition of poll taxes was also approved.

In the declaration of principles, union adopted unanimously without a single dissent, the AFL leaders said: "There should be a condition of absolute equal rights on jobs and job opportunities without any discrimination whatsoever between workers on account of race, creed or color."

"We have moved the Southern wage differential off the back of Dixie," he said, "and we are going to move the barriers against the colored brothers."

Denying that discrimination against Negroes had existed on a large scale in the carpenters union, he said:

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Kansas City Call
JAN 29 1943

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A plea for fairness and tolerance was voiced by the Rev. W. M. Jones, Negro district vice president of the International Longshoremen's association, Atlantic and Gulf Coast district, as he addressed the closing session of the conference, praising the AFL, Rev. Jones said that Negroes were seeking only the rights given by the U. S. constitution and urged white friends to go up the road together with Negro workers.

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"Discriminatory unions must learn that Negroes must be in the labor movement or they will be outside. There can be no decent tackle the broad southern problem of how to get Negro labor out of the south and into the nation's factories.

With only one dissenting vote the Negro delegates asked the conference to recommend the establishment of a Committee on Race Relations to the AFL executive board, the job of the committee being to consider how Negro labor could be used more effectively in the war program and within the AFL.

The Negro delegates also urged the conference to recommend efforts on the AFL Executive board to secure Negro representative on policy forming groups and staffs of regional agencies such as the WMC, WPB, OPA, WLB, Social Security board, wage and hour administration, OWI, etc.

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DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH
TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE
REEL 82

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JAN 30 1943

Can't Tolerate Bias

"We have a free country, and that means that every one must have the freedom to make his contribution in the economic world and to the progress of the country and to receive just compensation for it. The color of his skin doesn't matter. . . . This country needs workers, and it must not be impeded by any barriers of race, creed, color or national origin.

"These are the words of President Roosevelt's executive order

"As a majority of the Negro citizens of the Unit d States live in the twelve states represented in this conference, it is most fitting and proper that questions affecting the welfare of Negro labor should have had a prominent place in the discussions and deliberations of this body. The officers and delegates from the AFL unions in these twelve states in attendance upon this conference are proud of the fact that those wise leaders who founded the AFL adopted as one of its fundamental principles that the organized labor movement then being formed was devoted and dedicated to the high and holy purpose of the advancement and protection and well being of all wage earners without regard to race, creed or color.

"The fact that the Negro race here in the South has made greater progress during the past three quarters of a century than any race of people in any country of the world has ever made in a similar length of time, we of the AFL proudly proclaim that the organized labor movement has made greater contribution to this advancement than any other single influence.

JAN 30 1943

"Three-quarters of a century ago, chatteled slavery in the south was eliminated and in that space of time the Negroes in the south have come from the deplorable conditions then existing to a place where they now have their own colleges and universities, banks, insurance companies, their doctors and lawyers and dentists, their farms and their homes and property of all kinds. Geniuses have been developed. geniuses who made great contribution to science and to this country and to the world.

300,000 Members

"As a result of the efforts of our organized labor movement in these southern states, more than 300,000 Negroes are now members of our unions in these twelve states. While it is true that thousands upon thousands of them still live on sub-standard wages, it is also true that more thousands upon thousands of white people in the South continue to live on sub-standard wages.

"Organization of the workers of the South of both races has been difficult and hindered by many obstacles, some of them apparently insurmountable, but through perseverance and devotion to the principles of trade unionism, greater progress has been made in the organization of the workers of the South, in both races, in the past five years than in any other section of the United States.

"This conference declares that it is in hearty accord with the fundamental principle of the AFL, that the labor movement should serve the workers without regard to race, creed or color, and further declares that there should be a condition of absolute equal rights on jobs and job opportunities without any discrimination whatsoever between the workers on account of race, creed or color."

JAN 30 1943

The Colored Committee for Policy, which drafted this section of the report, comprised: George W. Millerner, second vice president, International Longshoremen association; Hawood William, vice president-at-large, North Carolina State Federation; James Hampton, international representative of the Hodcarriers and Common Laborers union and vice president of the Alabama State Federation; Pat Dailey, general representative of Colored Local Union in the Ingall Shipyard, Pascagoula, Miss.; M. R. Perry, business agent of Carpenters Local No. 270, Pine Bluff, Ark.; J Harvey Netter, president, I.L.A. Local No. 1419 and AFL organizer; Carl Kemp, trustee, Colored Brick Mason Local, Savanah, Ga.; John Wyatt, president, Painters Local No. 1319, Mobile, Ala.; and Marshall Gunn, Aluminum Workers, Sheffield Ala.

Let's take these words home and put them into actual practice. We cannot tolerate discrimination."

A separate meeting of Negro delegates to the Parley at the Butler Street Y.M.C.A. was held early in the conference and adopted a program which called upon the AFL executive committee to set up a network of local race relations committees throughout the South to help the integration of Negroes into war industry.

Hit Draft Prejudice

Other resolutions adopted by the Negro delegates included one urging the Southern War Labor Conference to go on record against the discrimination against Negroes practiced by many local selective service boards in the South in violation of National Selective Service policy, and another calling on the AFL executive to work for Negro representation on government policy making bodies of war agencies. The resolution specifically mentioned WMC, OPA, WLB, SSB, and OWI.

JAN 30 1943

Presiding at the conference of Negro delegates were Cornelius Maiden, national organizer of the AFL, and George W. Miler, second vice president of the Longshoremen.

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JAN 30 1943

The full conference's statement on policy attacked the poll tax as "a contradiction in a democracy," and urged the AFL to continue its fight for repeal of the poll tax as a condition for voting.

Cite Progress

Full text of the statement on "Organized Labor's Aid to Negro Labor" is as follows

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Atlanta AFL Gets End-Jim-Crow Motion

APR 29 1943

APR 29 1943 (Special to the Daily Worker)

ATLANTA, April 28. — Encouraged by the progress against Jim Crow made by the January Southern War Labor Conference of the AFL, four Negro unionists took advantage of a recent state AFL convention to push the fight against discrimination further.

The convention failed to take action on the resolution, however, as the proposal was opposed by Albert Gossett, Atlanta Federation of Trades president, and Dewey L. Johnson, former state federation president.

APR 29 1943

The resolution asked the "elimination of differences between white and Negro unionists" and was sponsored by "Negro delegates to the Georgia State Federation of Labor Conference."

LOS ANGELES.—A Negro picket line was thrown around the headquarters of a Negro labor union branch, this week. The pickets of the Council for Equal Participation protested the opening of an auxiliary lodge of the AFL Boilermakers International.

The pickets assailed the auxiliary as a Jim Crow move, that was hampering the efforts of Negro workers to secure greater freedom of opportunity in working conditions.

Garner "Bud" Grayson, executive in charge of Auxiliary 95, did not deny that his organization was jim crow, but emphasized he did not agree with his critics that the auxiliary was retro-gressive to race progress or the labor movement. Grayson said he only yielded to the expediency of digging in" at this point after all other means of securing recognition in the union had been exhausted.

Grayson, former chairman of the Council For Equal Participation, the group picketing his organization, said that his organization will have direct jurisdiction over 1,000 or more Negroes now employed in shipyards and other defense plants working under a Boilermaker's union permit. Some of the pickets themselves will have to pay dues into the auxiliary if they continue to work, it was pointed out.

Picket Jim Crow AFL Union Office

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
November 15, 1943

Rome Dispute Settled

ROME, Ga., Nov. 15.—An agreement has been reached here between the contractor and agents of L. unions, ending a labor dispute on the Housing Agency colored housing project being erected in west Rome. Under terms of the agreement settling the dispute, the contractor is to employ only union carpenters and bricklayers, with other crafts to remain on an open-shop basis.

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"Organization of the workers of the South of both races has been difficult and hindered by many obstacles, some of them apparently insurmountable, but through perseverance and devotion to the principles of trade unionism, greater progress has been made in the organization of the workers of the South, in both races, in the past five years than in any other section of the United States.

"This conference declares that it is in hearty accord with the fundamental principle of the AFL, that the labor movement should serve the workers without regard to race, creed or color, and further declares that there should be a condition of absolute equal rights on jobs and job opportunities without any discrimination whatsoever between the workers on account of race, creed or color."

The Colored Committee for Policy, which drafted this section of the report, comprised: George W. Millerner, second vice president, International Longshoremen association; Hawood William, vice president-at-large, North Carolina State Federation; James Hampton, international representative of the Hodcarriers and Common Laborers union and vice president of the Alabama State Federation; Pat Dailey, general representative of Colored Local Union in the Ingall Shipyard, Pascagoula, Miss.; M. R. Perry, business agent of Carpenters Local No. 270, Pine Bluff, Ark.; J. Harvey Netter, president, I.L.A. Local No. 1419 and AFL organizer; Carl Kemp, trustee, Colored Brick Mason Local, Savanah, Ga.; John Wyatt, president, Painters Local No. 1319, Mobile, Ala.; and Marshall Gunn, Aluminum Workers, Sheffield, Ala.

Let's take these words home and put them into actual practice. We cannot tolerate discrimination."

A separate meeting of Negro delegates to the Parley at the Butler Street Y.M.C.A. was held early in the conference and adopted a program which called upon the AFL executive committee to set up a network of local race relations committees throughout the South to help the integration of Negroes into war industry.

Hit Draft Prejudice

Other resolutions adopted by the Negro delegates included one urging the Southern War Labor Conference to go on record against the discrimination against Negroes practiced by many local selective service boards in the South in violation of National Selective Service policy, and another calling on the AFL executive to work for Negro representation on government policy making bodies of war agencies. The resolution specifically mentioned WMC, OPA, WLB, SSB, and OWI.

Presiding at the conference of Negro delegates were Cornelius Maiden, national organizer of the AFL, and George W. Miler, second vice president of the Longshoremen.

The conference opened with Negro delegates raising a question about seating arrangements, since many feared they would be restricted to the balcony of the city auditorium where the sessions were held. This problem was met somewhat by segregating Negro delegates on the right side of the auditorium's main floor, although they were not forced to enter a jim crow door.

Seated on Platform

At the first conference session held Saturday morning Negro delegates were again apprehensive when they saw upwards of 40 promionent representatives seated on the platform but with no Negroes among them. After some protest this was corrected Saturday afternoon when five Negro AFL officials were given seats on the platform, two of them sitting on the front row. Negroes also occupied the platform during the rest of the conference.

A plea for fairness and tolerance was voiced by the Rev. W. M. Jones, Negro district vice president of the International Longshoremen's association, Atlantic and Gulf Coast district, as he addressed the closing session of the conference. Praising the AFL, Rev. Jones said that Negroes were seeking only the rights given by the U. S. Constitution and urged white friends to go up the road together with Negro workers.

The policy committee of the conference refused to adopt three of the four statements drawn up by the Negro delegates at their special meeting at Butler Street Y.M.C.A.

Felton Addresses Group

Frank P. Fenton, AFL director of organizations, erstwhile member of the FEPC, said that he had dedicated his life to fighting against the abuses of America. "A man, just because his skin is black, should not be discriminated against. There is not a white God or a black God—there is just one. The Negroes feel the same as the white man and should be treated the same.

"Discriminatory unions must learn that Negroes must be in the labor movement or they will be outside. There can be no decent wage system with one for white and one for colored."

He took several cracks at FEPC saying that it should not work on picayune problems of individual discrimination but should tackle the broad southern problem of how to get Negro labor out of the south and into the nations factories.

More Booker T.'s

He urged Negroes to try to get more leaders of the Booker T. Washington type, "who will sacrifice for you 'instead of trying to get you into other organizations and using you for their own purpose." He told them not to criticize other people but to "do your rights on the basis of justice."

Present at the special Negro delegates meeting were Cy W. Record, FEPC field representative, who reviewed some of the accomplishments of the committee in the south while admitting the difficulties under which it had worked; and George Streator, of the WPB labor division, who gave sound advice on how Negroes might strengthen their labor movement.

Maiden, general organizer for the AFL, had general charge of the Negro delegates, presiding over the Negro delegates' conference, arranging for housing and entertainment and looking after the interest of the Negro AFL members.

Among the prominent Negro AFL officials attending the conference were R. F. Finkley, vice president Alabama State federation and organizer; George W. Milner, second vice president of International Longshoremen's association; and James Hampton, vice president of the Alabama State Federation of Labor.

The full conference's statement of policy attacked the poll tax as "a contradiction in a democracy," and urged the AFL to continue its fight for repeal of the poll tax as a condition for voting.

Cite Progress

Full text of the statement on "Organized Labor's Aid to Negro Labor" is as follows

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Atlanta AFL Gets End-Jim-Crow Motion

APR 29 1943 (Special to the Daily Worker)

ATLANTA, April 28. — Encouraged by the progress against Jim Crow made by the January Southern War Labor Conference of the AFL, four Negro unionists took advantage of a recent state AFL convention to push the fight against discrimination further.

The convention failed to take action on the resolution, however, as the proposal was opposed by Albert Gossett, Atlanta Federation of Trades president, and Dewey I Johnson, former state federatio president.

The resolution asked the "elimination of differences between white and Negro unionists" and wa sponsored by "Negro delegates t the Georgia State Federation of Labor Conference."

It requested the appointment of two Negro organizers, a public relations officer for Negro unionists and an inter-racial committee within the federation to "assist in solving a number of problems."

The largest Negro delegation to the conference came from Savannah, but none of its members signed the resolution which was put before the body by four Atlanta delegates.

The day following the resolution's introduction, April 23, one of the Negro delegates who presented it moved that it be dropped. He took his action after Gossett and Johnson spoke against it. Both said it was their opinion that "outside influences" were back of the proposal.

LOS ANGELES.—A Negro picket was thrown around the headquarters of a Negro labor union branch, this week. The picketing of the Council for Equal Participation, protested the opening of an auxiliary lodge of the AFL Boilermakers International.

The pickets assailed the auxiliary as a Jim Crow move that was hampering the efforts of Negro workers to secure greater freedom of opportunity in working conditions.

Garner, "Bud" Grayson, executive charge of Auxiliary 95, did not ny that his organization was jim ow, but emphasized he did not ree with his critics that the set-up of the auxiliary was retro- essive to race progress or the la- r movement. Grayson said he ly yielded to the expediency of opointed out.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
November 15, 1943

Rome Dispute Settled

ROME, Ga., Nov. 15.—An agreement has been reached here between the contractor and agents of A. F. of L. unions, ending a labor dispute on the National Housing Agency colored housing project being erected in west Rome. Under terms of the agreement settling the dispute, the contractor is to employ only union carpenters and bricklayers, with other crafts to remain on an open-shop basis.

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Picket Jim Crow AFL Union Office

Green Flays Negroes For Anti-AFL Bias

Defender
Chicago. Ill

BOSTON—The American Federation of Labor was committed to a new tactic on the Negro question this week following conclusion of its 63rd annual convention.

In addition to the usual lip service to the fight against racial discrimination while maintaining Jim Crow auxiliaries, the AFL now seems to be directing a counter-offensive against Negroes by charging that they are prejudiced against the AFL.

The new line was laid down at last week's convention here by half a dozen AFL leaders led by AFL President William Green himself.

Replying to point-blank assertions by A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, that 20 AFL unions bar Negroes either by their constitutions or by inference, Green claimed that the AFL had to move slowly on the race question.

Favor CIO

Then he added that while Negro leaders have been demanding that the AFL admit Negroes, they have favored the CIO in competition for membership.

"If they want us to organize the Negro workers and we spend your money and employ organizers to do it, why don't they line up with us," demanded the AFL chief. "I can't prevail upon representatives of any colored organization in America to appeal to workers to join the AFL. What about this prejudice against us?"

Randolph's charges of racial discrimination aroused a storm of controversy with half a dozen union presidents rushing to the rostrum to attempt to answer his charges, which said:

"Until the AFL abolishes race discrimination there can be no pretense of democracy within the AFL. We, Negroes, will continue to fight for democracy, not alone for the good of the AFL, but for the democracy of the entire labor movement."

He singled out for particular attack the boilermakers, machinists, blacksmiths and railway clerks.

He rose to open the discussion after the resolutions committee brought in a report against racial discrimination which took no actual steps to wipe out prejudice in its own ranks.

Hits Jim Crow Locals

Randolph was bitter in his denunciation of auxiliary Jim Crow locals which give Negroes no vote and no representation in the union, but only the right to pay dues.

Green opened the discussion by declaring that the AFL had more than a half-million Negro members, making it the "largest organization of colored workers in the world."

"If I had my way, every organization in the AFL would admit Negroes to membership on the same basis of equality as whites," he added.

John P. Frey, head of the AFL metal trades department, lashed out sharply at Randolph, terming his statement "most dangerous" and "the greatest disservice to the colored race since the Negro became a free man."

Frey also attacked Negro workers who, he claimed, had acted as strike-breakers during a work stoppage on the West Coast. He closed his talk by quoting an article by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt in the current issue of Negro Digest entitled "If I Were A Negro." The First Lady said in the article she "would not do too much demanding and would accept every advance made but would not try to hasten them."

The resolution against discrimination was then adopted without any amendment.

Called 'Agitator'

Randolph, who had resisted unrelentingly pressure from top AFL officials to prevent the race discrimination issue from coming to floor debate, was assailed by Green and others as "an agitator" and "professional Negro."

Green also attacked the NAACP, the Urban League, Paul Robeson and Negro ministers whom he charged have discouraged Negroes from joining AFL unions in favor of the CIO.

"In every unit where we seek to organize," Green yelled, "prominent Negro representatives of prominent Negro organizations in the U. S. appear on the scene and appeal to Negro workers to boycott the AFL and to unite with a dual, rival union. If I had my way regarding auxiliary unions, we'd have it the other way. But I don't have my way in a lot of things. But that's a small percentage of our organization. I'm defending this on their part."

Earlier Randolph had assailed the delegates for permitting AFL jim crow auxiliary unions which he characterized as "trade union misrule and imperialism."

Hits Boilermakers

Randolph especially singled out the boilermakers union, once a craft union which was recently converted into a large industrial union when awarded a union shop contract with the Kaiser shipyards on the Pacific coast, Negro workers employed at the yards have been segregated into auxiliary units where they pay dues, but are not allowed to attend meetings or participate in the selection of officers.

"Is there anybody here taking the position that racial auxiliary unions are justified?" asked Randolph in rebuttal. "No one would contend that Jewish or Catholic unions should be organized. A racial auxiliary union is either right or wrong. If it is right, it ought to be justified. If not, it ought to be condemned and exterminated.

"If you were in the Negro's place and were put into auxiliary unions without rights and had to pay dues and you were not permitted to exercise your skill and you were not permitted to rise, what would you do? We contend that the AFL itself is not secure so long as the Negro is denied the same rights as white workers. Nothing has been said here to cause me to retreat from the position I've taken."

OTHER PAPERS SAY

Defender — Chicago. Ill

NEGRO EXCLUSION FROM TRADE UNIONS

(From The Chicago Tribune)

The resolutions committee at the American Federation of Labor convention has recommended that the various unions continue their efforts to eliminate discriminations against Negroes. With this as his text, Mr. A. Philip Randolph, spokesman for the sleeping car porters, took the platform to criticize some twenty unions that he said refused membership to Negro workmen. He laid particular emphasis upon the racial policies of the boilermakers, machinists, blacksmiths, and railway clerks. Representatives of a number of these organizations were about to offer replies when the meeting was adjourned.

Perhaps the federation will find a solution of this problem but there is ample ground for skepticism. The abuses complained of are old ones and progress toward correcting them has been slow. We believe that unions which exclude Negroes are as benighted as employers who refuse to hire them, but the prejudices that inspire conduct of this sort are deep seated and cannot easily be eliminated. Many workmen feel that in a free country they have the right to admit or exclude from their unions anybody for any reason. These opinions may not be defensible morally or legally, but they exist and must be reckoned with.

Perhaps the remedy lies in appropriate amendments of the Wagner act, the anti-trust acts, and of state labor laws. They might well forbid closed shop agreements with unions which refuse membership to Negroes, because such contracts automatically deprive Negro citizens of an opportunity to earn a living at certain trades. Further than that, the Wagner act might contain a provision refusing recognition as a bargaining agency to a union which excludes Negroes. Corresponding provisions might be written into the laws giving trade unions certain exemptions from anti-trust prosecution. As matters stand, federal law can be said to sanction discrimination, and in so far as it does so the Negroes have every justification for complaint.

There is scarcely a human being alive who does not harbor a prejudice of some sort. Practically speaking, it is impossible to eliminate prejudice by law, but it should be possible to keep the law from itself becoming an engine of prejudice. Unions which are guilty of discrimination against Negroes, in violation of the spirit and perhaps also the letter of the Constitution, should be denied the special privileges which unions enjoy under the statutes.

Bitter Debate Is Seen As Randolph Refuses Compromise

BOSTON — (ANP) — Leaders of the AFL in convention here were seeking to avert bitter debate Monday on the "lily white" union issue raised by A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, but little hope was held for its avoidance when Randolph announced that a statement of policy submitted to him by Matthew Woll, chairman, and John P. Frey, secretary, of the resolutions committee held "nothing concrete on which we can come to an agreement."

Ready To Carry Out Resolution

Randolph has stated that he is ready to carry his resolution to the convention floor for a complete airing of the issue unless the AFL makes a definite committment on auxiliary unions. Several delegates have indicated they will support his position shared by his co-worker Milton P. Webster, vice president of the porters' union. Randolph and Webster are the only two colored delegates to the national meeting.

Well and Frey formulated the statement contents of which went undisclosed in an effort to effect a compromise on the question to avert a floor debate such as marked the AFL convention last year when Randolph assailed his colleagues for setting up auxiliary unions which he charges are in fact jim crow units barring Negroes from attending conventions and voting or aiding in selection of officers although they must pay dues. This, said Randolph, is tantamount to "taxation without representation." The two union officials have agreed to confer further with Randolph on the statement.

Randolph and Webster have submitted a resolution to the convention getting at the roots of race prejudice in the labor movement. The resolution charges the AFL with responsibility to make "some definite declaration on these auxiliary unions since they constitute the central problem of discrimination."

"No declaration will be effective unless it makes known to the workers and the public that the position of the AFL is irrevocably committed to the abolition of auxiliary unions based upon race," declared Randolph. "The Negro people are so strongly opposed to this form of segregation that they would rather be out of the labor movement than to enter this jim crow system of labor organization.

"The AFL unions must recognize that auxiliary unions are un-American and anti-labor since they foster division in the labor movement on the basis of race."

He referred to the "notorious

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REEL 82

351-1943
Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR TAKES STAND FOR EQUAL RIGHTS AT GREAT MEETING IN ATLANTA

Two Hundred Negroes And 2,800 Whites at Big Conference; Workers Pass Resolutions Opposing Poll Tax; Pledge Aid to War

Jan 29, 1943

By William Y. Bell

ATLANTA ,Jan. 28 (ANP)—After getting under way in an atmosphere charged with apprehension by Negro labor leaders about the treatment Negro delegates might expect, the Southern War Labor conference of the American Federation of Labor and the War Production board's labor division closed its two-day meeting here Sunday, Jan. 17, with statements calling for equal rights of all in labor regardless of race or color and repeal of the poll tax as a condition of voting.

More than 200 Negroes were represented among the 3,000 AFL labor men who gathered from 12 southern states to discuss "Southern Labor's Part in the War Program."

The conference opened with Negro delegates raising the question about seating arrangements, since many feared they would be restricted to the balcony of the city auditorium where the sessions were held. This problem was met somewhat by segregating Negro delegates on the right side of the auditorium's main floor, although they were not forced to enter a jim crow door.

Seated on Platform

At the first conference session held Saturday morning Negro delegates were again apprehensive when they saw upward of 40 prominent representatives seated on the platform but with no Negroes among them. After some protest this was corrected Saturday afternoon when five Negro AFL officials were given seats on the platform, two of them sitting on the front row. Negroes also occupied the platform during the rest of the conference.

A plea for fairness and tolerance was voiced by the Rev. W. M. Jones, Negro district vice president of the International Longshoremen's association, Atlanta and Gulf Coast district, as he addressed the closing session of the conference. Praising the AFL, Rev. Jones said that Negroes were seeking only the rights given by the U. S. constitution and urged white friends to go up the road together with Negro workers.

White Unionist Urges Fair Play

J. R. Weyler, general representative of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiner and chairman of the policy committee, became the conference's white spokesman for the rights of Negro AFL workers when he warned the entire conference that the CIO will certainly take in those Negro workers who are not given a fair deal in the AFL.

He advised white workers to make up their minds to be fair to their brothers in the union movement and stated that a Negro who could do a job as well as the next man should be given a chance at it.

The policy committee of the conference, which included 10 Negro delegates, refused to adopt three of the four statements drawn up by three-fourths of the Negro delegates as a special meeting held Saturday afternoon at the Butler Street Y. M. C. A.

Committee on Race Relations

With only one dissenting vote the Negro delegates asked the conference to recommend the establishment of a Committee on Race Relations to the AFL Executive board, the job of the committee being to consider how Negro labor could be used more effectively in the war program and to expand interracial goodwill within the AFL.

The Negro delegates also urged the conference to recommend efforts on the AFL Executive board to secure Negro representation on policy forming groups and staffs of regional agencies such as the WMC, WPB, OPA, WLB, Social Security board, wage and hour administration, OWI etc.

The policy committee also ignored a request from the Negro delegates aimed to have the AFL Executive board take a position on the disregard for national selective service policy shown by local draft boards drafting both white and Negro workers with children before other with fewer dependents have been taken. The Negro delegates reminded the policy committee in their statement that since Negro workers in the south easily form 40 percent of the working force, the interest of Negro labor must be considered. "One-tenth of the United States, one-third of this southland cannot be overlooked if America is to win this war. We are Americans too."

Fenton Addresses Group

Frank P. Fenton, AFL director of organizations, erstwhile member of the FEPC, said that he had dedicated his life to fighting against the abuses of America. "A man, just because his skin is black, should not be discriminated against. There is not a white God or a black God—there is just one. The Negroes feel the same as the white man and should be treated the same.

"Discriminatory unions must learn that Negroes must be in the labor movement or they will be outside. There can be on decent wage system with one for white and one for colored."

He took several cracks at FEPC saying that it should not work on picayune problems of individual discriminatiton but should tackle the broad southern problem of how to get Negro labor out of the south and into the nation's factories.

More Booker T's

He urged Negroes to try to get more leaders of the Booker T. Washington type, "who will sacrifice for you instead of trying to get you into other organizations and using you for their own purpose." He told them not to criticize other people but to "do your rights on the basis of justice."

Also present at the special Negro delegates meeting were Cy W. Record, FEPC field representative who reviewed some of the accomplishments of the committee in the south while admitting the difficulties under which it had worked. George Streator, of the WPB Labor division, who gave sound advice on how Negroes might strengthen their labor movement and George W. Milner, second vice president of the International Longshoreman association.

Maiden in Charge

Cornelius Maiden, general organizer for the AFL, had general charge of the Negro delegates, presiding over the Negro delegates' conference, arranging for housing and entertainment and looking after the interest of the Negro AFL members.

Among the prominent Negro AFL officials attending the conference were Cornelius Maiden, general organizer; R. F. Finkley, vice president Alabama State federation and organizer; George W. Milner, second vice president of International Longshoremen's association; and James Hampton, vice president of the Alabama State Federation of Labor.

AF of L

U.S. Trying to Mix Races—AFL Union

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

APR 24 1943

(ANP)
WASHINGTON

The International Association of Machinists (AFL), in its attempts to block the acceptance of colored members into the union is fostering the argument that the Federal Government is going to impose a policy of race mixture upon white people.

The fight has been intensified by the passage of the Mead-Randolph Overtime Pay Bill in the Senate Friday with a mild non-discrimination clause sponsored by Senator William Langer (Rep., S.D.).

APR 24 1943

Discussing the matter editorially, The Federal Machinist, official organ of the IAM, says, in part:

Bi-race Contacts "Debasing"

"There doubtless are many personages in high places whose social status is so firmly established that it cannot be adversely affected by a close association with the colored race.

"However, there are hundreds of thousands of white Americans in humble circumstances who feel that their social status is damaged or debased if they continue to live in a predominantly colored community or work where they are in close association with the colored race."

Paradoxical is the situation in Cleveland where three weeks ago the IAM local announced that it does not intend to discriminate against anybody who wants to work and is a machinist and accepted a considerable number of Warner-Swasey plant employees there.

APR 24 1943

Lockhead Employs 2,650

The Lockhead-Vega plant in Burbank, Cal., where about 2,650 colored workers are employed today as compared to none on September 1, 1941, has a large number with membership in the machinists union. Trouble out there, according to reports, is that colored persons are reluctant to enter the union.

APR 24 1943

To get around the ritualistic oath that only "competent white mechanics" would be proposed for membership, the union first classed colored persons as Orientals and, therefore, white. Today, it is understood, the word "white" is just dropped altogether.

Arthur Higgins, New Orleans shipbuilder who already has thousands of colored workers in training for the building of cargo planes, intends to hire up to about 15,000, insists that they must be union men, and the report is he will not countenance any compromise with the machinists union on this score.

APR 24 1943

Protest Against AFL Jim Crow Local No. 92

MAR 6 1943

By HERMAN HILL
(Courier Coast Correspondent)

LOS ANGELES, Calif., Mar. 4—Several hundred Negro workmen affiliated with the American Federation of Labor Boilermakers' "Auxiliary," who are employed in the California Ship and Consolidated shipyards and the Western Pipe and Steel Company at the into the public eye last week, when Los Angeles harbor, united in pro- the employees in question enlisted test last week against the "taxa- the aid of civic organizations and tion without representation" policy the press. Previous protests to of the union. Colored members, it is alleged, are herded into the jim crow local but pay the same dues and receive less protection, and are in most cases, the last person to be upgraded.

For some time the present strife has been brewing and finally burst

OTHER JIM CROW LOCALS

The AFL has already set up such auxiliaries in Portland, Ore., at the Kaiser Shipyards and at other nationalities to join the regular three plants. It is no clause in the union by-laws, but, rather, a long-standing policy of the union heads here have resulted in Filipinos and other coastal points.

ONE SUCH LOCAL CLICKING

The signal success of the all-Negro Boilermakers' Local 26 in Oakland, which boasts of more than $20,000 and a membership of more than 500 workers, has been suggested by some as a solution to the problems of the Southern Cali- can tactics are injurious to the all-out war effort, the protestants

Pointing out that such un-Ameri-

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fornia group. Although labeled as a jim crow local by certain factions, the Oakland Bay Region local was born of a desperation of a pioneering few who felt the Negro should be given a share of skilled and semi-skilled jobs in defense yards and plants in the locale. Battling tooth and nail for a foothold, the Northerners have won the respect of both management and labor alike. They have affected many reforms, such as insurance rate adjustments and wages and hours. Its housing committee, working in conjunction with Federal and city housing authorities, is making a determined effort to solve the Bay Area's desperate housing situation. A short while ago, Local 26 purchased its present location. When officials of the local visited Los Angeles last month, a hue and cry went up that they were planning to "move in" here. This accusation was firmly denied later.

Torn between the schools of thought, the Los Angeles auxiliaries are exploring all angles and are deliberately and carefully plotting their futures.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

AFL Sets Up Racial Bar In Shipyards, WMC Is Told

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal.—(ANP)—An advisory committee this week told the WMC that "a supply of labor which is desperately needed" had been withheld when Local 513 of the Boilmakers union had discriminated against Negroes seeking jobs at the Richmond shipyards on the bay.

The committee chairman, Judge S. J. Lazarus, of the state superior court, declared that members have arrived at the "inescapable conclusion" that the AFL affiliate had "prevented Negro men and women from being employed in Richmond shipyards solely because they were Negroes."

The jurist charged that the employment practices of the local were "in direct contradition" to President Roosevelt's Executive Order No. 8802.

Judge Lazarus' report written to the regional director of the WMC further stated that in each of a dozen cases brought before the advisory committee "the failure to obtain employment in shipyards can be laid at the door of local 513's refusal to clear qualified Negro applicants.

EFFORTS FAILED

The chairman also charged that all the committee's efforts to "meet with representatives of the union and clarify the matter across the conference table" had ended in failure.

Eighteen specific complaints of discrimination were attached to the report and Judge Lazarus declared that:

"Discrimination does a vast disservice to the cause of democracy, perpetrates an even greater disservice to the war effort itself."

Homer E. Patton, international representative of the Boilermakers' union, denied the charges in the Lazarus report. He said that several thousand Negro workers are now employed at the Richmond yards operated by Henry J. Kaiser, and that several hundred had been cleared by the union since last August when it received its charter.

CLEARED THRU BOILERMAKERS' UNION

Of approximately 8,900 persons hired at Richmond last month it was revealed that between 200 and 300 were cleared through the Boilermakers' union.

According to one federal official "working people themselves" must change their attitudes towards Negro workers before unions can be expected to cooperate fully.

He also suggested that "a little clearer directive from Washington to employers and workers" is necessary.

Nashville, Tenn., Banner
October 6, 1943

Haas Urges AFL To Accord Union Status to Negroes

Boston, Oct. 6—(AP)—Monsignor Francis J. Haas, chairman of the President's fair employment practices committee, pleaded today with delegates to the American Federation of Labor convention to accord full union status to Negroes and other minority groups.

Monsignor Haas, who is bishop-elect of Grand Rapids, Mich., said the executive order creating his committee held out to minority groups "something akin to what the Wagner Act held out to dominated workers in the year 1935. . . . In trade union terms they wish to own the right to settle grievances and to negotiate contracts through representatives of their own choosing, to work for their seniority rights, to share in the opportunity for security for their families, and to participate as free men in that modern equivalent of the New England town meeting, the trade union."

Declaring that these are the rights of minority groups, he cautioned: "Restrictions on inalienable rights will always breed revolt."

Hotel Negro Council Lesson in Solidarity--

The Daily Worker

Workers in New York's organized hotels and clubs can boast that they belong to the largest local in their AFL international. But size isn't the only point of pride in Hotel and Club Employes Local 6. The way that size—which represents a veritable League of Nations in itself—has been solidified is one of the outstanding achievements in the labor movement.

The union has a specially good record on its accomplishments in strengthening Negro and white solidarity and the Negro Council, which it established among its own membership, plays an important part in making that good record possible.

The harmonious functioning that characterizes the union today didn't just happen. The union, as it grew, brought in thousands of workers, who brought along with them their share of the unity-disrupting prejudices fostered by employers. That they have made big strides in shaking those prejudices loose can be credited to careful planning by the union leadership.

OPEN LETTER

A year ago, general organizer Gertrude Lane, president Michael Obermeier and secretary-treasurer Martin Cody joined in issuing an open letter to the membership which clearly set forth the stand of the international and the local guaranteeing that "any worker, irrespective of color, race, creed, religion or political opinion, who is a bona fide hotel worker, has the right to become a member of our organization, is fully entitled to enjoy all membership privileges and can run for office without any discrimination."

The open letter listed other union decisions on this question as follows: New York. N. Y.

"The Executive Board and the Shop Delegates Council passed a motion unanimously that the Union should make all efforts to fight against any discrimination, particularly against the Negro people, who represent 10 per cent of the entire population of the United States. The Negro people are ready to lay down their lives in defense of democracy just as well as any other U. S. citizen.

"The Union greeted and welcomed the attitude of the President of the U. S. in establishing a commission to fight discrimination in war production and all other fields.

"The Union stand 100 per cent behind the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments to the U. S. Constitution, which guarantee equal rights to all people in the country, regardless of race or color.

NO RACE BIAS

"Considering the aforementioned points, there can be no doubt that the Union will not and cannot permit any kind of an attitude that will show that there is discrimination among our members. Our Union will have no other course to pursue than to prosecute severely any actions in that direction.

"We hope and trust that we can count on everyone of our members to cooperate fully in carrying out the above policies and in achieving that unity and harmony through which we will win total victory over the Axis powers."

Neither the Negro nor the white workers, in many instances, had any notion of what trade - unionism meant. They had all worked in places where the Negro was pushed around—and where nobody did anything about it: separate locker rooms, separate tables for eating, and the like. White workers from places where these habits were taken for granted had to learn that it wasn't done here. Negro workers who had always resented being pushed around had to learn that HERE there'd be none of that.

They had to learn also, however, that everybody had a job to do in this business of unity building.

A group of Negro workers got together one evening last summer.

Albert Spivey, now in the army, was chairman. He said:

"We shall not stand idly by while our white brothers and sisters fight our battles against discrimination. We must recognize that to be free and to gain the democracy that belongs to all Americans, we must be in the vanguard of those fighters."

They thereupon organized the Negro Council.

It was made up of representatives from every hotel with Negro workers. It elected a steering committee to carry on its administrative work. The steering committee appointed a sub-committee to (1) mobilize the entire Negro membership for "educational and functional activities" in the union; (2) investigate and report all incidents involving "racial issues" in the industry; (3) work in cooperation with existing organizations and agencies for passage of favorable federal, state and municipal legislation; (4) take what-

ver action these organizations and present chairman agencies deemed necessary and as Louise Robinson, executive chairma occasion arose.

Local 144 has, since then, begun to work separately from Local 6. Its work, however, is equally good. One of the council's main tasks is, "to in- Council's method o and as Daisy George explained, tegrate new Negro workers into the which most immedi of the Negro Congress at its convention here."

Members of the Negro Council will be official ushers at the Garden

e said, speaking of the hod of work:

centrate on matters immediately affect the e. **Right now we're mad on the Madison len Freedom Rally on**

"In the meantim course, of the Negro Council. The **June 7.**

working like mad to Square Garden F

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DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

351-1943
The Northwest
Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

AFL Adopts New Declaration; Ban Race Prejubice

American Federation of Labor Convention in Boston adopted a new declaration pledging itself to eliminate prejudice against Negroes in industry. Such a declaration coming from the labor unions will, if it means anything at all, find a place by the side of two greatest state documents ever penned in the United States—the Declaration of Independence and the Emancipation Proclamation. The declaration reads as follows:

"The founders of the American Federation of Labor since their inception were opposed to any prejudices, traditions, social or religious demarcations which could be applied to interfere with or prevent the through-going organization of all wage earners. They made one of the cornerstones of the great trade union structures they were determined to erect—the principle that the right to work, or membership in a trade union should not be limited, or restricted in any manner, because of creed, color or race.

"The American Federation of Labor at that time, and ever since, has been the principal constructive and influential force in our country in giving practical application to that basic principle. We can reexamine record of progress made in eliminating prejudices against so called minority groups, with gratification and sincere pride.

"The principle announced over 60 years ago has been given increasing practical application. Distinctions, because of national origin within our trade union movement, have been very largely eliminated. The color bar has been removed to such an extent that labor representatives of our colored members inform us that over half a million of their race are now dues paying members of American Federation of Labor. This is the largest organization of colored workers in the world.

"It is evident, however, that in some portions of our country there still remain among workers lingering suspicions, prejudices and traditions fostered by conditions long since passed, but which still operate to prevent the complete application of that great principle upon which our trade union structure has been erected.

"The wold war in which our country is now engaged, which involves safeguarding the vital principle of free institutions under government by law, enacted by the people's representatives for the people, demands that national unity must be had and that all prejudices which interfere with this unity must be eliminated.

"Those in our armed forces are giving their lives in our country's defense, without thought of national origin or the color which nature has given them. All of them are the nation's defenders.

When the war ends those who are wage earners must be free to return to peaceful occupations as equals in the enjoyment of all of the rights and opportunities enjoyed by [illegible] in our trade union movement.

"National origin, race or color must in no manner or form restrict any American from a free opportunity to prepare himself to become a skilled mechanic, a craftsman, and take his place as such in any employment requiring the skill which he has acquired. The doors of our trade union movement must be open. This country must not maintain an industrial standard which discriminates against a wage earner because of his color.

"Substantial progress has been made in eliminating prejudices, but there still remains an obligation upon the American Federation of Labor to [illegible] on and expand the good work it has already done, so that the prinicple of industrial equality of all men will be established beyond question in every section of our country.

"It is obvious that the goal we aim for, the best interests of the American people as a whole, and our democratic way of life, cannot be secured by one stroke or through the method of decrees, mechanical orders or threats handed down from on high. What is required is intelligent, systematic, educational efforts to speed the day when there will no longer exist in the industrial field any prejudices or handicaps because of racial origin or color.

"So that vitality and action can be given to this declaration of principle and of policy, your committee recommends that these declarations be given the widest possible publicity, and that all of the educational facilities of our trade union movement be used in furthering the objectives which have been herein set forth.

"Your committee recommends affirmation of the action taken by the last convention endorsing the . President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

"The Post War Problems Committee has appointed a sub-committee to deal with this and other minority questions. On this sub-committee the minority groups, including the colored race, are represented. Your committee is confident that as the results of this committee's work definite progress will be made."

Mine Leader Won't Let District 50 Stand as Obstacle

PM
New York. N. Y.

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN
Staff Correspondent

BOSTON, Oct. 8.—It took a major cave-in today by John L. Lewis to assure re-entry of the United Mine Workers into the American Federation of Labor.

Lewis has surrendered on the thorny issue of his catch-all District 50, from which he once hoped to build a third labor movement. This UMW sub-division today covers construction workers, railroad workers, building service workers and even 200 children's dressmakers. To the AFL, this represents jurisdictional raiding.

It took a formal letter of assurance by Lewis to the AFL resolutions committee to pave the way for expected approval of his application to rejoin the AFL, from which his union was expelled in the Fall of 1936 after he founded the CIO.

Lewis Adamant

Until this week, Lewis was adamant on the subject of District 50. For months he had refused to give in and the AFL convention opened here this week with the certainty that the UMW re-affiliation request would be turned down, because of District 50.

In a one and a half page letter, contents of which were released officially, Lewis indicated that he did not intend District 50 to stand as an "obstacle" to affiliation; that he did not propose to claim as UMW members, workers who in the normal course of union organization would belong to AFL craft unions already in existence.

It was reported, without confirmation, that Lewis even went so far as to say that if the AFL were to start an international coke and chemical union—which would conflict with an already existing CIO union—he would turn over his UMW membership to the AFL organization.

Up Next Week

The Lewis re-entry into the AFL will be thrown to the Convention floor early next week when the resolutions committee submits what is expected to be a favorable report. Some opposition is expected from the Progressive Miners of America, a small AFL coal-union, and other groups. But the line being broadcast to the 600 delegates is: "We must distinguish between Lewis personally and the 500,000 miners who are today outside the labor movement."

Another issue which is expected to raise bitter debate at the 63d annual AFL convention is anti-Negro discrimination by AFL "lily white" unions. A. Philip Randolph and Milton P. Webster, heads of the International Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and the only two Negro delegates here, have introduced a resolution which gets down to the roots of race prejudice in the Labor movement.

Two big AFL unions, the Boilermakers and the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, have set up what are called auxiliary locals, a euphemism for Jim-Crow. Negroes can belong to these unions, they pay dues but they have as much power, influence and civil rights as a Negro in John Rankin's Congressional district.

Randolph Resolution

It is this practice which the Randolph resolution condemns

Green on USSR

During the afternoon session yesterday, William Green, AFL president, replying to fraternal greetings by delegates from the British Trades Union Congress, reiterated AFL policy to Randolph and Webster in the hope of help selectdolph and Webster in the hope of help selectdolph and Webster in the hope of help selectd

he AFL's opposition to co-operation with the Soviet Trade Unions. An Anglo-Soviet Trade Union Committee is already in operation but the AFL has steadfastly maintained that it will not sit down with Soviet Labor organizations because, as Green said yesterday without mentioning them by name, they "are still under governmental domination and governmental control."

At the morning session, Green announced the return of the International Association of Machinists, which had resigned from the AFL because its leaders charged it was being raided by other AFL unions. The IAM, according to an announcement, has a membership of 640,000, making it one of the largest affiliates within the organization. Its return brings up AFL membership to 6,564,141 and with the assured return of the UMW, the AFL will this year have more than 7,000,000 dues-paying members.

Chinese Act

Another floor fight is expected to come up on the AFL executive council report opposing any change in the Chinese Exclusion Act. Five of the 12 members of the AFL legislative committee, which is considering a resolution on the question, unsuccessfully urged that the AFL favor equality of Chinese immigrants with those from other countries. They asserted that any other position would mean the perpetuation of the idea of racial inferiority for Chinese.

Although this motion was defeated, it was agreed that the committee report would tone down the strong anti-Chinese language of the AFL executive council report. However, it is expected that several unions, led by the International Ladies Garment Workers delegation, will demand a repudiation of the committee report.

The AFL and The Negro

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

OCT 30 1943

The American Federation of Labor again went on record at its annual convention in Boston against the Negro worker. By refusing to work to the end that Jim Crow auxiliary unions would be abolished, William Green, its president, and other A. F. of L. officials once more gave their official approval to union discrimination and segregation, despite Mr. Green's hypocritical phrases to the contrary.

Not only did the officials hide behind local union autonomy as an excuse for a jim crow and discriminatory set up in the A. F. of L., but they also viciously attacked A. Philip Randolph, head of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and delegate to the convention, for his plea that the union abolish its anti-Negro and un-American practices. In fact, the A. F. of L. officials, from Mr. Green down, assumed an outraged attitude that Mr. Randolph would even have the audacity to request his own union, into which thousands of Negro workers pay their money, but have no vote or voice, for worker equality.

Not only did Mr. Green attack Mr. Randolph, but he lashed out in a bitter tirade against the NAACP, the Urban League, Paul Robeson and Negro preachers, whom he charged with discouraging Negroes from joining the A. F. of L. unions! And, of course, also paying their hard earned money into their till.

All this adds up to one big fact: there is no place in the Jim Crow A. F. of L. for any honest, democratic black or white worker. Obsolete from the top down, more anxious to maintain its lily-white policy than to serve as a constructive, progressive organization for working men, regardless of their color, the A. F. of L. has demonstrated its utter hopelessness as a socio-economic vehicle for workingmen.

We have often said that the CIO is the proper union for Negroes to join. First, it is a vertical union which rightfully organizes plants and industries and not crafts. Secondly, its executives, although not perfect, have proven that they are willing and anxious to accept Negro workers equally with white ones. Thirdly, every time a Negro worker joins the CIO he helps it and hinders the A. F. of L. The sooner the A. F. of L. as it is now constructed is abolished, the better it will be for all workingmen in the U. S. Mr. Green's weak stand on the color question in his union proves this.

Randolph Urges AFL Unions to Admit All

Afro-American Baltimore, Md

OCT 9 1943

R.R. Porters' Chief Asks Convention to Vote; FEPC, John L. Lewis Praised as National Boon

BOSTON — President A. Philip Randolph and Vice-President Milton Webster (Sleeping Car Porters), delegates to the American Federation of Labor Convention here, are out to get a convention resolution to end the color line in AFL unions.

Speaking at a mass meeting Sunday at Columbus Avenue AMEZ Church, Randolph said they are not only seeking employment opportunities during the war in industry, but stability of employment for colored people after the war.

Defends FEPC

Webster said he was shocked to hear that Willard C. Townsend, Red Cap Union president, had said "The railway hearings mark the end of the FEPC," and also that certain portions of the press were stating that the FEPC was ineffective.

As an FEPC member, he denied the fact that the committee was at an end of its resources. "The FEPC is responsible for putting more colored persons in jobs than any other agency," he declared.

Webster said he questions "the kind of brain a man can have to say that the railroad hearings meant the doom of the FEPC."

Cites Prejudice in CIO

In defending the position of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters in remaining a part of the AF of L when it has a color clause in many of its unions while the CIO does not, Webster pointed out the fact that white Americans are the bulk of both unions and all of them have prejudices. He added:

"The worst cases that come before the FEPC are from CIO unions. The most recent case was that of the Mine Workers' Union which refused to allow thirty colored miners, who had been discharged from the U.S. Army to relieve the shortage in the copper mines, to go to work at the Anaconda Plant at Butte, Mont.

"It was also a CIO union that prompted the sitdown strike among industrial workers in Detroit when two colored men were upgraded according to company policy.

Lewis Praised

Randolph gave the status of the pending wage increase for railway workers, although many of the porters are now making as high as $400 per month.

He said that the 8-cent per hour increase for all non-operating railroad employees, approved by the President's Emergency Panel Committee, but vetoed by Judge Fred W. Vincent, of the Economic Stabilization Board, is now before the President for his final action which should be known next week.

He praised John L. Lewis for having done the country a great service in the mine fight, for he pointed out the inequity between the wage level and the price level.

Randolph said that the threefold function of March-on-Washington Movement and the brotherhood was: (1) to make the colored man conscious of his power; (2) to make him conscious of his rights; (3) to awaken the American public to the two facts.

He condemned Britain's policy of exploitation of colored people throughout the world and the American policy of second-class citizens.

"Fight Now for Rights"

"Now is the greatest opportunity to take a blow for first-class citizenship," Randolph declared, "and it can not be deemed evidence of disloyalty to the country. Those colored persons who fail to join us are hypocrites; and any white man who says that it is undemocratic is untrue.

"Anyone saying the colored man be fighting for his rights now will be branded as disloyal is wrong, and on the other hand should be saying that the government should be apologizing to the colored man for being disloyal to him."

Having just completed a coast-to-coast tour, Randolph said that he has found that colored people are not enthusiastic about the war because they feel that they are not going to gain anything by fighting.

He pointed out that the brotherhood had bought $50,000 worth of bonds and millions individually.

Mentioning the March-on-Washington's "non-violent goodwill direct action," Randolph said it was a means of using direct action to secure the rights of colored people and at the same time to achieve good will.

He said it is being used in Chicago, Denver, Los Angeles and other cities in sit-down strikes in restaurants that refuse to serve colored people. He urged the citizens of Boston to use the same method.

A.F. of L. Upholds Its Racial Stand Regarding Negroes

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Ill

OCT 17 1943

BOSTON, Oct. 14.—After a long discussion of racial discrimination charges against some affiliated unions, the American Federation of Labor convention adopted unanimously Tuesday a committee report reaffirming the federation's policy against race prejudice.

Representatives of several unions accused of discrimination Wednesday by A. Philip Randolph, Negro delegate of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, rose to deny the charges. The speakers included G.M. Bugniazet of the electricians, Roy Horn of the blacksmiths, W. L. Allen of the telegraphers, Charles J. MacGowan of the boilermakers, and John P. Frey of the A.F. of L. Metal Trades department.

Proposal Called Dangerous.

Frey, who summed up the arguments, said Randolph had made a "dangerous proposal" in suggesting that the A.F. of L threaten with expulsion any affiliates who violate the federation's policy against discrimination.

Through propaganda and education, he said, the federation has made progress against prejudices which could not have been made by expelling unions or threatening them with expulsion.

He said prejudice, where it exists, had developed from circumstances beyond the federation's control.

William Green, A.F. of L. president, said the race question would only be solved through education and understanding.

He added that prominent leaders of Negro social and civic organizations, while demanding that the A.F. of L. organize Negro workmen, have consistently aided the Congress of Industrial Organizations in compelling them into auxiliary locals.

"If they want to organize us," he said, "why don't they come to our workers and employ us?" Green declared. "I can't prevail upon accused organizations, while demanding that they spend their money and employ organizers to do it, why don't they more than 500,000 Negro members of the A.F. of L. claims and the number of unions of discrimination by is a small percentage. 107 international unions federation, Randolph has seven as excluding Negroes by constitutional provisions, five as excluding them by tacit consent, and six as segregating them into auxiliary locals.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Woman Shop Steward

The Worker
New York, N. Y

By ELLEN McGRATH

SEATTLE, WASH.

ADELINE BARNETT, pretty young Negro shipyard worker, is justly proud of her election as shop steward by her union brothers and sisters at the Associated Shipyards here.

"M[illegible] feel that by helping to turn out warships we are really doing something for the war effort," she said. "Now through my work as a shop steward I can do much more."

Adeline is a native daughter of Washington state. She studied at grade and high school in the apple-growing region of central Washington where her parents reside. She came to Seattle after graduation from high school because, she thought, there might be more opportunity for her here. She studied stenography and office machine operation at Broadway High School but no position was available for her skills. So she worked as a maid in a beauty parlor until war came.

Adeline recalls with an ironic smile that she was offered an opportunity to work in an office then but she rejected it in favor of helping to turn out warships.

"Women can broaden their knowledge and more effectively help to win the war by working in industry now," she said. "And by winning this war we are going a long step toward freedom of all people without discrimination."

The problems of a shop steward?

Adeline frowns upon the term and prefers to consider her new responsibilities with high enthusiasm.

"There's a definite period of adjustment when women first come into the shipbuilding industry and the shop stewards assist them in getting accustomed



ADELINE BARNETT

to their work. My own union, the AFL Ship Scalers Local 589, is particularly active in this.

"We prevent a large turnover among these new workers who come down willing and anxious to do their best but need assistance to adapt themselves to the new work," she explained.

"And the women do have definite problems which the union is helping them to overcome. Lack of adequate housing and day care facilities for their children are the two chief problems of women in the shipyards here.

"The Ship Scalers Union has cooperated in setting up a bureau in the yard where shipyard workers can register their appeals for a place to live and for child care."

Adeline expresses the warmest admiration for the union which has pioneered in sweeping aside barriers against women and Negroes.

"The Scalers Union was the first in this area to dispatch women from the hiring hall. And they grant full membership to both women and Negroes, a step which has not yet been taken in all unions. The Ship Scalers is a very democratic organization. And it is working to secure adequate day care and housing facilities."

Negroes Strike At Shipyard

Courier-Journal

After Row With A.F.L. Union

Louisville, Ky.—

Sausalito, Calif., Nov. 27 (AP)—Between 400 and 500 Negro workers quit their jobs at a shipyard today in protest against the dismissal, under terms of the master contract, of ninety Negroes who were not in good standing with the Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders, Welders and Helpers Union (A.F.L.).

The dispute grew out of the Negroes' refusal to join an auxiliary union, instead of the regular union, as requested by the boilermakers. The boilermakers [illegible] served notice on management that these men were not in good standing because they had failed to pay their dues.

The master contract, a Marinship official said, requires withdrawal of the time card of any man who fails to pay his union dues. Consequently, work cards of the ninety Negro employes were withdrawn last night. Other Negroes quit in protest.

A committee of Negroes met with the management today. Joseph James, Negro committee chairman, said the company had agreed to do all possible to iron out the trouble. He asserted the work stoppage was not a strike and that there was no malicious intent.

AFL Convention Refuses to End Jim Crow Unions

Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

Randolph's Fight Against Racism Provokes Bitter Debate; NAACP, Urban League Hit

BOSTON.—Despite a challenging address by A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, "In every unit where we seek delegates to the sixty-third annual convention of the American Federation of Labor voted to continue the union's policy of racial segregation and jim crowism.

Mr. Randolph's speech in which he called for abolition of the color bar in the AFL and the end of jim crow auxiliary unions Tuesday provoked a two-hour acrimonious debate in which key executives of the AFL fought bitterly in defense of their policy of racial segregation and discrimination.

The AFL official family "ganged up" on Mr. Randolph after its "diplomats" failed in a week of effort to get him to swallow a resolutions committee report which ignored jim-crow locals and color barriers existing within the AFL.

Speech a "Moral Crime"

John P. Frey, president of the AFL Metal Trades Council, called Mr. Randolph's address "a moral crime" and "the most unfortunate most dangerous statement ever made in a convention."

Progress Seen

The fact that only twenty international and national A.F. of L. unions of the 107 in the union practice discrimination is real progress, the union head added.

The attack on the speaker was led by William Green, AFL president, and while Mr. Randolph was the main target in the debate, the NAACP, the Urban League and other liberal organizations and individuals were shot at by the AFL big guns.

President Green, outlining his "official and personal point of view," rapped the National Urban League, the NAACP, Paul Robeson, and "colored preachers" who, he said, discouraged colored workers from joining AFL unions. "In every unit where we seek to organize," he declared vehemently, "prominent colored representatives of prominent organizations in the U.S. appear on the scene and appeal to colored workers in whichers to boycott the AFL and to unite with a dual, rival union.

"If I had my way regarding auxiliary unions, I'd [illegible] it the other way around," Green said, "but I don't have my way in a lot of things. But that's a small percentage of our organization. I'm not defending this action on their part."

List of Biased Unions

Mr. Randolph cited the following A.F. of L. unions as discriminating against colored workers:

By provisions in ritual:

The Machinists International Association.

By provisions in their constitutions:

Airline Pilots' Association, Commercial Telegraphers Union, Masters, Mates and Pilots, national organization, Order of Railroad Telegraphers, Railway Mail Association, Switchmen's Union of North America, Wire Weavers' Protective Association;

By provisions of their constitutions, but unaffiliated organizations:

Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, Railroad Yardmasters of America, Railroad Yardmasters of North America, Order of Railway Conductors, American Association of Train Dispatchers;

Unions which habitually exclude colored persons by tacit consent:

Asbestos workers, heat and frost insulators, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, American Flint Glass Workers, International Association of Granite Cutters, United Association of Journeymen, Plumbers, Steamfitters;

Unions which afford colored workers only segregated auxiliary status:

Brotherhood of Blacksmiths, Drop Forgers and Helpers, Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders, Welders and Helpers, Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees, Brotherhood of Railway Carmen of America, Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employees, Federation of Rural Letter Carriers, International Association of Sheet Metal Workers.

Unaffiliated organizations similarly accused are the Rural Letter Carriers' Association and the American Association of Railroad Workers.

"Agitators" Blamed

W. L. Allen, president of the Commercial Telegraphers' Union, denied that the national union excludes colored persons by its constitution. G. W. Bugniazet, of the Electrical Workers' Union, declared, "We have a Chinese secretary of one of our unions."

Roy Horn, president of the Blacksmiths' and Drop Forgers' Union, accused "colored agitators" of persuading colored blacksmiths and helpers on one large railroad not to join the Blacksmiths' Union.

Ignoring the hoary-headed charge dragged out by Frey that colored persons had acted as strike-breakers at a shipyard in Portland after World War I, Mr. Randolph, in rebuttal, challenged the army of orators, declaring:

Randolph Issues Challenge

"Is anybody here taking the position that racial auxiliary unions are justified? No one will contend that Jewish or Catholic unions should be organized.

"A racial auxiliary union is either right or wrong. If it is right, it ought to be justified. If not, it ought to be condemned and exterminated.

"If you were in the colored man's place and were put into an auxiliary union without rights and had to pay dues and you were not permitted to exercise your skill and you were not permitted to rise, what would you do?

"We contend that the AFL itself is not secure so long as the colored worker is denied the same rights as white workers. Nothing has been said here to cause me to retreat from the position I've taken."

When the bitter debate subsided and the official resolution was passed unanimously, it was noted that not one white delegate had come to the support of Mr. Randolph.

Randolph and Milton P. Webster, representing the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters which has 10,000 members, were the only two colored delegates to the convention who had voting power.

The resolution, which ignores completely the question of jim-crowism in the AFL, calls for education against race prejudice in AFL unions, endorses the FEPC and points to the naming of a subcommittee to study minority questions.

Before Randolph spoke, Monsignor Francis J. Haas, head of the FEPC, urged the abolition of all color bars and other undemocratic restrictions in unions

minority groups.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

Red Caps Victorious

AUG 14 1943

High Court Rules That White Unions Must Give Them a Vote or Give Them Their Independence

AUG 14 1943

WASHINGTON

Forty-eight Red Caps in the St. Paul, Minn., Union Station won the right, Sunday, to join the union of their choice, the United Transport Service Company (colored).

The District Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia announced the decision, Monday.

The victory was more significant because Chief Justice Groner, in a separate opinion, severely scored the plaintiffs, a white AFL union, which in corroboration with the employer demanded the right to represent the Red Caps although the union's constitution expressly limits membership to whites only.

Union Demand "Unjust"

Justice Groner called the AFL union demand inadmissible and so palpably unjust . . . as to impose a tyranny in many respects analogous to taxation without representation."

AUG 14 1943

The Red Caps lost their case before the Railway Mediation Board, but won it in the U.S. District Court. The union (not supported by the board) then appealed.

Judge Cobb Pleased

Red Caps were represented by Cobb, Howard and Hayes. Judge James A. Cobb was particularly pleased with the verdict. He said:

Seniority Wiped Out

"Not only in this case but on "So it is manifest what this decision means. We have long taken the position that, if colored people are not allowed to belong to the craft with the whites, then the white organizations had no right to represent them against their will.

AUG 14 1943

"The Railway Labor Board and the National Mediation Board have constantly ruled against us, but we now have a decision which is greatly helpful

AUG 14 1943

practically all of the railway carriers in the South, colored are represented by these white bargaining agents, the result being that the colored firemen and brakemen in the South—and especially since the Diesel engines have been put on—are losing their jobs rapidly.

AUG

"It is done in a large measure on the seniority rule. As soon as these white organizations become the bargaining agent for the colored, they have the old contracts cancelled and new contracts made.

"Under that situation it does not make any difference how long these colored men have been working for the carrier. Some have worked as long as twenty five years, yet as soon as a new contract is made, immediately they become new employees and go to the foot of the roster and the whites invariably take precedence over them.

"Then when the lay-off comes, the colored are the first to be laid off and let out and, as before stated, nearly all of the colored men in high-salaried jobs have been in the language of the railroad, rolled.

Paper Box Makers Union, AF of L, Repudiates Negro Labor Victory Committee As "Reds"

SEP 25 1943

Age

New York, N. Y.

The Negro Labor Victory Committee was repudiated "as having all the earmarks of a typical Communist Front Organization" in a resolution unanimously adopted last week by the Executive Board of the Paper Box Makers Union Local 299 of the International Brotherhood of Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers, an A.F. of L. affiliate, was announced by M. N. Weinberg, the Union's manager.

SEP 25 1943

In so doing, the executive board of the Union called attention to the fact that Assemblyman Hulan Jack, a member of the Union, who was listed as one of the sponsors of the Negro Labor Victory Committee had no right to speak for the Union, or to make it appear that the Union was in any way connected with the Negro Labor Victory Committee.

Assemblyman Jack Scored

The executive board of the Union adopted the resolution after having surveyed and heard Assemblyman Jack, who was charged with attempting without authorization or authority, to imply that the Union supported the Negro Labor Victory Committee, because Assemblyman Jack's name appeared on a letterhead followed by the words, "Paper Box Makers Union, Local 299, A.F.L."

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Among other things the resolution stated:

"No member of the Paper Box Makers Union Local 299, no matter how prominent, is or ever was authorized to use the name of this Union to further the purposes of the dubious Negro Labor Victory Committee. That organization's sponsorship is entirely too reminiscent of the many innocent sounding Communist inspired groups that spring up from time to time.

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"Our Union is affiliated with and actively supports the only genuine Negro Organization recognized by the Labor Movement, namely the Negro Labor Committee, under the leadership of Frank R. Crosswaith, of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union and A. Philip Randolph of the Pullman Porters Union.

"Mr. Jack just as any other individual member of our Union, has the right to join any organization he chooses. He does not have the right, however, to mislead others into thinking that our Union is in any way affiliated with any organization, unless authorized to do so by the Union. Our Union will not permit any member to make the Union a tail-kate to a Communist venture."

SEP 25 1943

R.R. MAIL UNION FIGHTS TO BAN NEGRO MEMBERS

Baltimore, Maryland

OCT 23 1943

Goes to Court With Case

Afro-American

By Edmund Scott

ALBANY, Sept. 25— The Railway Rail Assn., AFL, which has a membership of about 23,000 government employes, argued in Supreme Court Friday to retain its policy of excluding Negroes from membership.

The issue was raised in October, 1942, when the national RMA sought to impose its restrictions on the New York local, which smashed a 29-year-old color bar by voting into membership seven Negro mail clerks, the first to be taken into the union since it affiliated with the AFL in 1913.

OCT 25 1943

The proposed constitution and by-laws of the New York City branch do not discriminate against Negro members. But Article 3 of the constitution and ritual of the national organization restricts members to "male employes of the Caucasian race or a native American Indian."

Started in 1942

Yesterday's court proceedings were started in December, 1942, by the RMA when it brought action against the Attorney General and the New State Industrial Commissioner who had ruled that the RMA was a labor organization and subject to the Civil Rights Law which prohibits discrimination on account of race, creed or color.

DEC 25 1943

Daniel J. Dugan, lawyer for the RMA, called it a "social organization" in his argument for a declaratory judgment.

People's Voice

New York, N. Y.

Bakers Union Denies Any Membership Bias

Officials of the Bakery and Pastry Drivers and Helpers Union, Local 802, issued a denial this week to Adam Powell, jr., that there has been in existence at any time in the union a jim-crow policy.

DEC 25 1943

According to a statement issued by Hyman Bernstein, president, and Robert J. Sullivan, secretary-treasurer.

"We are affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, one of the largest bodies in the American Federation of Labor, and it is a known fact that one of the most important basic principles of any union, including ours, is not to discriminate against anyone regardless of their race, creed or color. Thousands of Negroes are members of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters."

DEC 25 1943

A.F. of L.'s Racial Stand.

Bee (Magazine Section

A. PHILIP RANDOLPH, during the recent AFL convention in Boston, hurled with telling effect, accusing salvos of racial discrimination within the ranks of some affiliated unions.

OCT 24 1943

In quick succession representatives of several unions accused of discrimination sprang to their feet to deny the charge of racial discrimination within their unions. But more heat was generated than light.

Randolph's specific charge of discrimination in the electricians, blacksmiths, telegraphers, boilermakers and metal trades unions was denied without proof. We are asking again—is there discrimination? This inquiry is prompted because it has been called to our attention by persns desiring to enter these unions, in a bona fide manner, and have been systematically barred from admission.

That there are auxiliary locals we are well aware of, but this segregation is plain and unequivocal.

Chicago, Ill

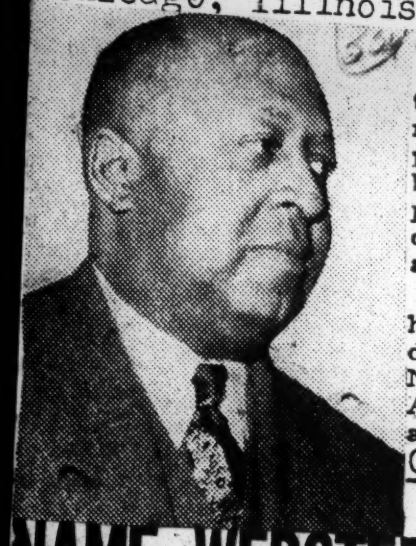
The fact that the American Federation of Labor reaffirmed in its minutes a policy against race prejudice and then proceeded to call Randolph's proposal "dangerous", when he suggested that the AFL threaten with exclusion any affiliates who violate the Federation's policy against discrimination, clearly demonstrates the AFL still needs some liberalizing.

The AFL claims more than 500,000 Negro members, in fairness, most of its unions are turning toward the light. But unfortunately, among the most 'aristocratic' unions, that is, those representing highest paying categories, they are reluctant to admit Negroes, and if under pressure, only to auxiliary unions are men of color admitted.

Of the 107 international unions in the Federation, according to Randolph, seven exclude Negroes by constitutional provisions, five by tacit consent", and six segregate into auxiliary unions. Green, the president of the AFL, has accused Negro organizations of being prejudiced against the Federation. A better choice of statement would be that Negroes are prejudiced against discrimination in the AFL, and everywhere else that it exists.

OCT 24 1943

35i-1943
Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois



NAME WEBSTER ON AFL PEACE PLANNING BODY

JAN 9 - 1943

Move By Green Seen As Recognition Of Negro In Labor Movement

In a significant move recognizing the influence of Negroes in the labor movement, AFL President William Green this week appointed Milton P. Webster, international vice president, of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, a member of nine man post-war planning committee.

Believing that his appointment gives the Negro race an opportunity to have its war objectives incorporated in labor's peace proposals, Webster expressed this opinion in an interview with the Chicago Defender.

"This appointment is a recognition that labor realizes that Negro wishes for the post war world are due some consideration," he declared. "Like every other minority group, we have certain problems which are peculiar to us," he continued, "but fundamentally ke are workers and our economic problems are the same as other workers. Any program that this committee promulgates will of necessity affect our interests."

Webster would not comment at this time on specific proposals he may make to the committee. He pointed out that as yet he has not been officially notified of his appointment and until the body meets can't speculate on the scope of its activities.

JAN 9 - 1943

His appointment is significant, however, for with Philip A. Randolph he has led the fight against Negro discrimination in certain AFL unions. All of the men named are big figures in labor.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Green Plans Kaiser Union Bias Inquiry

JAN 2 1943

NEW YORK.—Claiming that it was the first time that race discrimination in Local 72 of the Boilermakers union at the Kaiser shipyard in Portland, Ore., had been brought to his attention, William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, promised an immediate investigation in reply to a telegram from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

JAN 2 1943

Green's telegram stated: "Your telegram conveys to me first information I have received regarding race discrimination at Portland, Oregon. I will inquire into the matter immediately because it is the purpose and policy of the American Federation of Labor to prevent race discrimination and instead to establish and maintain the exercise of all rights of workers regardless of race, creed or nationality."

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

A. F. of L. to Investigate West Coast Racial Bigot

NEW YORK. — Acknowledging receipt of a telegram from William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in which Green promised that an inquiry would be made this week into the segregated union proposal of Tom Ray of Local 72, Boilermakers Union at the Kaiser shipyard, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People expressed surprise at learning that the NAACP was the first to inform Green of Ray's proposal.

The NAACP pointed out that discrimination in the Portland shipyard had been widely publicized in the press for the past two months and that the A. F. of L. represented by John Frey, the A. F. of L. had participated at a November conference in Portland at which representatives of the War Manpower Commission met to take action on the situation.

Green's telegram to the N. A. A. C. P. stated: "Your telegram conveys to me first information I have received regarding race discrimination in Portland, Ore. I will inquire into matter immediately because it is the purpose and policy of the American Federation of Labor to prevent race discrimination and instead to establish and maintain the exercise of all rights of workers regardless of race, creed, or nationality."

Negro Carpenters To Share AFL Contract

WASHINGTON, D. C.— The Southern representative of the American Federation of Labor has invited local Negro carpenters Union No. 1960 in Savannah, Georgia, to sign and become a party to a closed shop agreement between the AFL, its affiliated bodies, and the Macevoy Shipbuilding Corporation of Savannah, the Committee on Fair Employment Practices of the War Manpower Commission announced Saturday.

Officials notification of this action was received by the committee from the Macevoy Corporation.

The invitation was issued by the AFL Southern Representative, George H. Googe, after the committee had called his attention to reports from the Negro Union that its members had been unable to secure fair employment with the Macevoy Corporation, although the local was affiliated with the AFL and the Savannah Building Trades Council which entered into the closed shop agreement with the Corporation. The Negro local contended that it had been able to secure only a very few of the carpenter's positions available and these only at the pleasure of the business agent of the white local.

In noting the action taken, Dr Malcom S. Maclean, chairman of the committee, stated:

Jan 7 1943

"In following this procedure, the union is following the policy laid down in the president's executive order of June 25, 1941, providing for "the full and equitable participation of all workers in defense industries, without discrimination because of race, creed, color, or national origin."

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

AFL Transit Union Flays Bias In D.C. Bus Dispute

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The Capital Transit company agreed this week to abide by executive order 8802 and consider Negroes for employment as conductors, motormen and drivers on its street cars and buses.

In officially notifying the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice of its decision, the company brought to a close a long struggle of Negroes here for transit jobs.

No obstacle to the employment of Negroes now remains since W. D. Mahon, international president of the union, which holds a contract within the transit company ordered J. G. Bigelow, president of local 689 here, that there is no bar to Negro membership in the union.

No Date Set

It was not indicated, however, by the company, when it expected to employ its first Negro workers. Because of the heavy drain of the company's manpower by the armed services and other vital war agencies, it is expected that vacancies will occur soon which can be filled by Negroes.

JAN 2 1943

The fight for jobs as motormen, conductors on trolleys and as drivers on buses was an old one here as it is in other large cities where Negroes are barred from these jobs.

No favorable action on the part of the company was secured, however, until the FEP committee classed it as a war industry and ordered it to comply with Executive Order 8802 which forbids discrimination in the employment of workers because of race, creed, color or national origin.

JAN 2 1943

Tries To Stall

In response, the company asked that it be allowed a period of time in which to comply with the order. It gave as reason the need for preliminary work to make the Negro workers acceptable to the whites.

The FEP committee, however, in a brusque note, ordered the company to comply immediately. In its letter last week, the company signified that it would obey.

Mahon, in his letter to head the Washington local of the union urged Bigelow after stating that the union policy was not in conflict with the committee's order, to "take into consideration the fact that we are now engaged in a war in which the colored man is called upon to do the same line of duty that the white man is called upon to do."

JAN 2 1943

He added that other divisions of the union have Negro members and that as far as he was able to determine "there is no difference in the accident records of white and Negro operators."

Other cities in which Negroes are working as bus drivers or trolley motormen and conductors are Detroit, Tulsa, New York City, and Cleveland.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

Is The AF of L Un-American?

IT has been reported that Henry J. Kaiser's Portland and Vancouver shipyards will establish separate locals in the AFL Boilermakers union. That union, it is said, has opposed Negroes working in the shipyard in other capacities than common laborers.

JAN 3 - 1943

Incidentally, that concern is an all war industry. The AFL local is hewing true to its peace-time policy of discriminating against workers for no other reason than that they are Negroes.

The first manifestation of this discrimination came in the instant case when the Kaiser shipyards and the AFL officials

JAN 3 - 1943

There are agencies in the government that are supposed to correct such abuses. It is time that they be called into Kaiser's shipyards and warn the AFL officials

some two hundred colored workers arrived at one of the shipyards to work in Octo- ber. The union refused to permit them to membership and raised a howl when tio of some of them were given skilled jobs for wo which they were best fitted. It is no less than hypocrisy for an organization which is committed to a program of aiding workers to deny to membership

that the country is in a war now and no abuses to workers on account of color will be tolerated, and no activities calculated to adversely affect the war effort will be permitted.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

AFL Denies Tycoon's Job Bias Testimony

JAN 2 1943

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Dec. 31—Although the Future Outlook league, a militant mass movement organization here, lost the first round of the job equality fight for the integration of skilled race workers into the plant of Warner & Swasey, world's largest manufacturer of turret lathes, recent developments indicate that the case will continue to have important and far reaching implications.

COMPANY ACCUSES AFL UNION

At the trial last week the Warner & Swasey Co. defended itself from the accusation of race bias by stating that they could not hire skilled Negroes because of union objections. Charles J. Stilwell, president of the company, made this statement in Common Pleas court.

This week Matthew DeMore, president of District 54, International Association of Machinists, AFL, in a written statement denied the accusation of union discrimination. He said the union will not tolerate discrimination against Negroes or any other minority.

JAN 2 1943

UNION DENIES IT WAS CONSULTED

He further added to the controversy by boldly asserting that the I.A. of M. had "never been consulted at any time" by the Warner & Swasey Co. as to who should be employed.

"Any acts of discrimination committed by this company must be assumed by the officers," stated DeMore, which, if true, completely contradicts the statement on the witness stand made in Judge Merrick's courtroom by Stilwell.

F.O.L. TO APPEL CASE

The Future Outlook League, of which John Holly is president, announced that the case will be appealed in a higher court.

Effie Mae Turner and Clareta Jean Johnson are the two government trained women who are suing the company to force their employment.

Another development which is causing much comment here was being discussed this week. Frederick C. Crawford, newly elected president of the powerful National Association of Manufacturers, heads the Thompson Products Co., which has Warner & Swasey under contract.

JAN 2 1943

COMMUNITY RESENT JUDGE'S STATEMENTS

Attorneys Chester K. Gillespie, Clayborne George and Harvey J. Johnson are preparing to appeal the unfavorable decision rendered by Judge Merrick in which he was particularly caustic concerning the ability of Negroes to adjust themselves to modern industrial conditions.

Judge Merrick stated in his lengthy decision that the "Negro coming from the jungles of Africa a few generations ago had no skill in industry."

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

Green Names Webster To AFL's Post-War Planning Committee

JAN 2 - 1943

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31—Milton P. Webster, vice-president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, was named by William Green, AFL president, this week, as a member of a nine-man post-war planning committee.

This committee was ordered by Green to "start planning now." He said labor cannot afford to wait until victory is won and must immediately show that it is measuring up to its responsibilities and is capable of exerting real leadership for a better world.

JAN 2 - 1

WEBSTER, RANDOLPH LED AFL BIAS FIGHT

Webster, along with A. Philip Randolph, president of the Porters' Union, have led the fight against discrimination as practiced by several AFL affiliates. The two men were the only race delegates to the last convention of the Federation.

JAN 2 - 1943

In naming Webster, Green gave evidence that he is at least outwardly supporting the fight waged by the Negro people and made it definite that minority status would be a major phase of the committee's discussions.

Matthew Woll, a Federation vice president was named chairman of the group. Others on the committee are: David Dubinsky, president of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union; George Harrison, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks; Dr. John Childs of Columbia university, representing the Teachers' Union; Harvey Brown, president of the International Association of Machinists; Rubin Soderstrom, president of the Illinois State Federation of Labor; Agnes Nestor of the International Glove Workers' Union and Richard Gray, secretary of the Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers' Union.

Negroes Ask AFL to Fight South's Jim Crow

Daily Worker, New York

JAN 18 1943

(Special to the Daily Worker)

ATLANTA, Ga., Jan. 17.—A meeting of 200 Negro delegates to the AFL's Southern War Labor Conference voted last night at the Butler Street YMCA to urge the executive board of the AFL to establish a network of local race relations committees throughout the South to facilitate the integration of Negro workers in war industry.

JAN 18 1943

Delegates attending this special session of conferences also voted to seek the incorporation into the policy committee report of a strong section calling for the abolition of the poll tax by both states and federal action.

Other resolutions adopted by the Negro delegates included one urging the Southern War Labor Conference to go on record against the discrimination against Negroes practiced by many local selective service boards in the South in violation of National Selective Service policy, and another calling on the AFL executive to work for Negro representation on government policy making bodies of war agencies. The resolution specifically mentioned WMC, OPA, WLB, SSB and OWI.

Presiding at the conference of Negro delegates were Cornelius Maiden, National Organizer of the AFL and George W. Miler, second vice - president of the Longshoremen.

JAN 18 1943

A high point in the Sunday morning session of the general conference was an address by Mathew Woll, senior vice-president of the AFL discussing the "twenty-eight million now in the armed forces or war industry will seek peace time pursuits at the end of the war." He declared that organized labor will face the problem of maintaining standards and organizations "under conditions of a idle labor market."

Mr. Woll said he was hopeful that the Social Security Law would be amended and added that organized labor must be prepared and strong enough to win a post war program that would meet the needs of the nation. "If there was ever a time we have need for united action by a united labor movement, it is now," exclaimed Mr. Woll to be the accompaniment of loud applause. "This is not time to quarrel about who is to blame for the division in the ranks of labor," he said. The real concern and the greater problem is to find the way "to unite to meet the onslaught" of anti-labor elements.

Harvey Brown, International president of the machinists reaffirmed labor's no-strike pledge but pointed out that the daily newspapers do not tell the true story of the grievances of the workers. He described a plant in the Middle West where the machinists had won an election but had been refused a conference with management to negotiate a contract. When the restive workers threatened to strike, the business agent posted a notice on the bulletin board urging the workers to stick to their jobs. Then, said Mr. Brown, the management ripped the notice off the bulletin board. The business agent posted another notice with the same results.

JAN 18 1943

"These native fascists must change their positions," said Brown.

Richmond, Va. Times-Dispatch
January 28, 1943

Negro Unions Organize Here; Regain Charter

The American Federation of Labor renewed its charter with 12 local Negro AFL unions at a meeting Tuesday night in St. Luke's Hall, at which time these unions formed a Central Labor Union, Paul Smith, regional director, AFL, announced yesterday.

Mr. Smith said that the charter was suspended a year ago because of the lack of interest on the part of these unions, but was renewed at the request of the members.

Representatives of the AFL Negro unions participating outlined a program to promote organization among all Negro wage earners and to work in co-operation with all other AFL unions and organizations.

Union representatives were present and assisted in the forming of the Negro Central Labor Union. They included W. Dan Anderson, representing the Teamsters' Union; Robert Miller, AFL organizer, and George Bryan, second national vice-president, Tobacco Workers' Union.

Officers of the Central Labor Union elected are Charles H. Morton, Jr., president; Waverly Hopkins, Sr., vice-president; Cornelius Johnson, financial secretary-treasurer; Willie Parker, recording secretary, and Charlie Robinson, sergeant-at-arms.

Asheville, N. C. Citizen
Oct. 13 1943

GREEN FAVORS EDUCATION FOR RACE PROBLEM

BOSTON, Oct. 12. (UP)—President William Green of the American Federation of Labor said tonight he believed that the race problem as regards trade unionism in the United States could be solved only by understanding and education—not by the application of force.

This statement came from the leader of more than 6,500,000 American labor unions in full accord with the AFL's fundamental principles of trade unionism," Randolph said.

"The system of auxiliary unions, based on race is undemocratic, un-American and violative of the fundamental principles of trade unionism," Randolph said.

It was his comment on his own resolution condemning auxiliary unions and calling for their abolishment—a resolution which the resolutions committee suggested be returned to the post-war problems committee for further study.

The question of race as it pertains to labor—bitterly discussed at the 63rd annual national convention of the AFL, and adopted a resolution referring to the race problem—especially as it affects the negro—to its committee on education.

If he had his way, Green said, he would be accepted in full status into the AFL—but, he added, the will of the majority must prevail.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

351-1943

CHARGE AFL BARS NEGROES IN SHIPYARDS

WMC Gets West Coast Reports Of Jurist's Advisory Group

FEB 13 1943

SAN FRANCISCO.—(ANP)—A WMC advisory committee this week declared that "a supply of labor which is desperately needed" had been withheld when Local 513 of the AFL Boilermakers union had discriminated against Negroes seeking jobs at the Richmond shipyards on the bay.

The committee chairman, Judge B. J. Lazarus, of the state superior court, declared that members have arrived at the "inescapable conclusion" that the AFL affiliate had "prevented Negro men and women from being employed in Richmond shipyards solely because they were Negroes."

FEB 13 1943

The jurist charged that the employment practices of the local were "in direct contradiction" to President Roosevelt's Executive Order No. 8802.

Judge Lazarus' report written to the regional director of the WMC further stated that in each of a dozen cases brought before the advisory committee "the failure to obtain employment in shipyards can be laid at the door of Local 513's refusal to clear qualified Negro applicants.

"Some of those had weeks, months and years of training; others were anxious to enter the training schools, provided in the shipyards. Most were referred to the jobs through the United States Employment service; and a great many had received a hiring slip from the company. Only the discriminatory policy of Local 513 stood in their way."

The chairman also charged that all the committee's efforts to "meet with representatives of the union and clarify the matter across the conference table" had ended in failure.

Eighteen specific complaints of discrimination were attached to the report and Judge Lazarus declared:

FEB 13 1943

"Discrimination does a vast disservice to the cause of democracy, perpetrates an even greater disservice to the war effort itself."

Homer E. Patton, international representative of the Boilermakers' union, denied the charges in the Lazarus report. He said that several thousand Negro workers are now employed at the Richmond yards operated by Henry J. Kaiser, and that several hundred had been cleared by the union since last August when it received its charter.

The Lazarus report made the Boilermakers union "look bad," admitted Patton, but he said that his union had been willing "to act as a guinea pig to force all of the unions into line."

Nashville, Tenn., Banner
October 12, 1943

AFL Deplores Union Race Discrimination

By JOSEPH A. LOFTUS

Boston, Mass., Oct. 12—(AP)—The American Federation of Labor Convention adopted today a committee report deploring race discrimination in unions after an extensive debate provoked by a Negro delegate's charge that some unions gave his race only the right to pay dues.

President William Green, participating in the discussion, declared, "If I had my way every organization in the AFL would admit Negroes to membership on same basis of equality as whites." The convention applauded his statement. Green said, however, he felt the problem could be solved only by understanding and education "and never through the application of force."

Charles J. MacGowan of the Boilermakers, the first to reply to the accusations of A. Philip Randolph, of the Sleeping Car Porters, said he and his union had long been recognized as an advocate of protection for the Negro workers.

Randolph opened the debate on the racial question yesterday with a statement that the race problem "is the No. 1 problem of America today," and a plea for the abolition of auxiliary unions based on race. He singled out for particular criticism the Boilermakers and the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks.

"Our international union, and its officers, has never discriminated in hire, wages, and working conditions because of race, color, creed or national origin," MacGowan said. "This auxiliary proposition," he said, referring to the separate groups into which Negroes are organized, "may not be the entire answer but you've got to take conditions as you find them, not as you wish them."

Other speakers were G. W. Bugniazet, secretary of the Electrical Workers; Roy Horn, president of the Blacksmiths; John P. Frey, president of the AFL Metal Trades Department, and W. L. Allen, president of the Telegraphers.

Frey, in a sharp retort, termed Randolph's statements "most dangerous" and the "greatest disservice to the colored race since the Negro became a free man."

The Metal Trades Department head asserted that he feared Randolph's statement would be printed and widely circulated among members of his race and foster discontent. As evidence that the Negro worker was not being discriminated against, Frey asserted that there were 800,000 Negroes employed in shipyards in San Francisco Bay as against none 18 months ago. He then said that the Negroes had abused the union by flocking into shipyards as strike-breakers during a work stoppage on the West Coast.

Frey then quoted from a recent article appearing in the Negro Digest written by Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt entitled, "If I Were a Negro." He said Mrs. Roosevelt wrote that she "would not do too much demanding, I would accept every advance made but not try to hasten them."

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
October 12, 1943

Racial Issue Report Adopted By AFL Parley

BOSTON, Mass., Oct. 12.—(AP).—The American Federation of Labor Convention adopted Tuesday a committee report deploring race discrimination in unions after an extensive debate provoked by a Negro delegate's charge that some unions gave his race only the right to pay dues.

President William Green, participating in the discussion, declared, "If I had my way every organization in the A. F. of L. would admit Negroes to membership on same basis of equality as whites." The convention applauded his statement. Green said, however, he felt the problem could be solved only by understanding and education "and never through the application of force."

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Joseph D. Keenan, vice chairman for labor production of the War Production Board, expressed opposition to labor conscription and declared it would "hamstring the war effort."

Washington Tribune, Washington, D. C.

Randolph Challenging AFL To Abandon Jim-Crow Unions; Refuses to Compromise

A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, threw his annual convention floor Tuesday, demanding showdown.

The Resolution Committee had recommended that the issue be referred to the Executive Council for further study.

Randolph called upon the convention to take a stand on the attitude it will assume toward Negro membership.

He charged that in various ways the committee recommendation, Flatly turning down a compromise will be out of the issue submitted by Randolph is pre-mise of establishing policy and his fight to the con-the Resolutions Committee, Ran-decried the practice of shunting

PM—New York, N. Y. 1943

Negro AFL Members Fight Jim Crow Unions

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN
Staff Correspondent

PM Exclusive

BOSTON, Oct. 9.—Leaders of the American Federation of Labor, meeting here at their annual convention, are seeking to effect—so far unsuccessfully—a compromise on the issue of anti-Negro discrimination by some AFL unions.

An initial statement of policy formulated by Matthew Woll and John P. Frey, chairman and secretary of the AFL resolutions committee, respectively, was presented to A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, for his reaction. Although its contents were unrevealed, Randolph declared its present form offered "nothing concrete on which we can come to an agreement."

Seeks Declaration

The nub of the present controversy is the auxiliary union question into which Negro workers are shunted by "lily white" AFL organizations. In labor parlance, these Negro workers are given class B memberships in such unions as



A. Philip Randolph

the Boilermakers and the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks. According to Randolph, Negro members pay dues but have no voice in the affairs of the union.

Randolph said that the AFL convention should make "some definite declaration on these auxiliary unions since they constitute the central problem of discrimination."

Oppose 'Auxiliaries'

"No declaration will be effective unless it makes known to workers and the public," he said, "that the auxiliary unions are un-American and anti-labor since they foster division of the AFL is irrevocably committed to the abolition of auxiliary unions based upon race. The Negro people are so strongly opposed to this form of segregation that they would rather be out of the labor movement than to enter this Jim Crow system of labor organization.

"The AFL must recognize that

Negroes 'Revolt'

He referred to the "notorious fact" that at the 1941 AFL convention in New Orleans, Federal unions of freight handlers, respon- sible only to the AFL executive council rather than to any autono-

mous international unions of the Railway Clerks. They revolted and fused and instead, were ordered transferred to auxiliary unions of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks. The Negroes re-organization.

on Monday and R pared to carry his

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

AFL Debates Discrimination Against Negroes

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.
Oct 12

By Louis F. Budenz
(Daily Worker Staff Correspondent)

BOSTON, Mass., Oct. 11.—Democracy cannot condone discrimination because of race or color, the 63rd convention of the American Federation of Labor declared today, in endorsing the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee and pledging cooperation to that body.

Shortly after the adoption by the delegates of that statement against the color bar in employment, the resolutions committee brought before the convention one of the most sweeping declarations against discrimination that has yet been presented to an AFL meeting. This statement was under discussion when the hour of adjournment arrived, a discussion which will be continued when the sessions are resumed in the morning.

"The World War in which our country is now engaged," said this recommendation of the Resolutions Committee, "demands that national unity must be had and that all prejudices which interfere with this unity must be eliminated.

"National origin, race or color must in no manner or form restrict any American from a free opportunity to prepare himself to become a skilled mechanic, craftsman, and take his place as such in any employment requiring the skill which he has acquired," said this statement of policy. "The doors of our trade union movement must be opened. This country must not maintain an industrial standard which discriminates against a wage earner because of his color."

While stating that "substantial progress had been made in eliminating prejudices," the report said that "there still remains the obligation upon the American Federation of Labor" to expand the work for "industrial equality" until it is "established beyond question in every section of our country."

TO CONTINUE DISCUSSION

This report still refrains from applying anything like disciplinary action, however, to those AFL affiliates which continue discriminatory practices, and that led to the discussion which President Green said would be resumed tomorrow.

Considerable applause greeted Milton P. Webster, Secretary Treasurer of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, when he addressed the convention on this subject as a Negro and labor member of the FEPC and expressed appreciation to the AFL for the support it had recently given the work of that body.

Progress in ending discrimination in a number of plants and places was reported by Webster, referring to one plant in which the number of Negro workers had risen from 250 to 900 as a result of the work of the President's Committee. The Secretary of Sleeping Car Porters read a letter he had received from a Negro worker stating how new Negro men and girls had been put on in a certain plant in considerable numbers, and of the good relations existing there between white and Negro workers.

Much more has still to be done against the "outrageous discrimination" still practiced in the aircraft industry in particular, Webster said, and urged the continued efforts of the AFL in back of the FEPC.

"Can a union leader shirk his responsibility to condemn discrimination in his union in the South, when the right of a worker to join the organization of his choice is what is involved?" asked A. Philip Randolph, president of the Sleeping Car Porters, in asking that the AFL make quicker headway against the color bars in certain unions which he named.

The unions must "eliminate the color bar because of horse sense alone," Randolph said, in an appeal which received much attention and considerable applause at its conclusion. "The unions must do that to save their own hides," he continued, pointing out the fact that fascism arises of making one or more races "the goat" in order to wipe out the entire labor movement.

The American Federation of Labor must square practices with its professions," he went on to emphasize.

Calling the attention of the delegates to the monument in the public garden nearby, marking where Crispus Attucks, the Negro, fell, Randolph pointing out that Attucks was among the first few to die for the American Revolution.

"The Negroes will not rest content to remain second-class citizens in the nation or in trade union membership," he concluded.

The president of the Sleeping Car Porters took a sarcastic dig at "the Knight Errant" who had assailed Randolph at the Toronto convention when Randolph could not make a reply. This, of course, was addressed against the attack made last year by Daniel J. Tobin, president of the teamsters.

McNUTT SPEAKS

American has now reached the bottom of the barrel of labor supply, Paul V. McNutt, Chairman of the War Manpower Commission, today told the convention. It is up to labor and management to take new and stringent steps for control "under their own steam" McNutt said, if the voluntary system of handling the manpower problem is to be preserved.

Among the new manpower measures still to be undertaken successfully, he said, were the stopping of turnover, speeding up of transfers from non-essential work to war production and the expansion of the employment of women. Productivity per worker had still to go up, too, and workers have to be held better in the "non-glamorous" and hot, stuffy industries.

Cooperation of labor and management was praised for such success as had en attained in manpower mobilization and control. That cooperation, McNutt said, was now more urgent than ever. Areas of labor stringency are growing in number, he stated, and are now 71 in all and may shortly go to over 100.

Today a spokesman for the General Federation of Labor of Palestine addressed the convention for the first time in AFL history. Israel Meremski, General Secretary of the "Histadruh," expressed appreciation to the American labor movement for the help given to Palestine and urged that it do more to "open fully the gates of the Holy Land to the Jews."

Under a special order of business announced by Matthew Woll as chairman of the International Labor Relations Committee of the AFL, a resolution was brought in this afternoon and approved which gave the convention's endorsement to the drive of Luigi Antonini's Italian-American Labor Committee for $250,000. For the New York Labor War Chest, Woll presented Antonini with a check for $10,000. The purpose of the fund, Antonini and Woll told the convention, is for the purpose of "reconstructing" the unions of Italy.

It is rather ironic that on the very day that this special order of business was enacted that the only big Boston meeting of Italian-Americans in this city tonight to celebrate Columbus Day should be under the auspices of the Free Italian American Labor Council, which rejected Antonini.

In a lengthy statement declaring "we know that there is a nucleus of an organized trade union movement still left in smoldering Italy," Woll's resolution asked that the American Federation of Labor and Antonini's organization be consulted by the AMG on Italian labor matters. The document, which also pledged "to help the workers of Italy with all the means possible and at its disposal," was adopted by the convention.

It is the promotion of this grant of $250,000 to Antonini's group which has so busied Jay Lovestone, the former mentor of Homer Martin of unhappy memory to the auto workers, in and out of the convention corridors.

The convention went to work briskly today, adopting and rejecting a number of resolutions. Among the measures endorsed was a statement still complaining about "the lack of understanding" by the new personnel of the National Labor Relations Board, although these are confessedly the very men the AFL had placed in office.

Although the Resolutions committee is now reporting, it is evident that the proposal in regard to the re-entry of John L. Lewis will not come up until Wednesday. (Tomorrow will be a half-day recess because of Columbus Day.)

In that respect, the story in this morning's New York Times (as a number of delegates privately pointed out) was glaringly misleading. It gave the impression that any referral of the Lewis application to the executive council would be helpful to Lewis and that there is a rising sentiment here for Lewis.

Neither statement is in accord with the facts. There is overwhelming anti-Lewis sentiment here, though it might be better organized.

From the very beginning of the convention, also, there have been many delegates opposed to Lewis who think that a reference of the matter to the executive council would be the best way to deflate Lewis and defeat his application.

Considering the real tussle going on back of the scenes here on that matter, the exact wording of the referral would have much to do in reflecting the scope of anti-Lewis setback or victory.

Union Exclusion of Negroes Stirs Sharp Conflict in AFL Convention

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.
Oct 12

By FRED W. PERKINS,
Scripps-Howard Staff Correspondent.

BOSTON, Oct. 13.—The attack this year on discrimination against Negroes by certain unions of the American Federation of Labor was said by convention delegates to-day to have been more sweeping than ever before.

The attack, led by A. Philip Randolph, an able and aggressive speaker who is the Harvard-educated president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and the defense by officers of several big unions he criticized, injected the first harsh conflict into usually sedate AFL proceedings.

Green Conciliatory.

The controversy was closed by William Green, AFL president, who said he personally would remove all union inequalities against Negroes, counseled consideration for their plea but that may be why Delegate Randolph wanted the proposal in regard to the re-entry of John L. Lewis will not come up until Wednesday. (Tomorrow will be a half-day recess because of Columbus Day.)

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Representation On U. S. Boards Is Recommended

ATLANTA WORLD
Atlanta, Ga.
Jan. 17, 1943

Resolutions Are Adopted By Negro AFL Delegates

Appointment of committees on race relations by the American Federation of Labor, abolishment of the poll tax, uniform system of carrying out Selective Service policies and Negro representation on all Government agencies were contained in resolutions adopted Saturday night by colored delegates attending the Southern War Labor Conference.

The resolutions were adopted at a special meeting held at the Butler Street YMCA and sent to the conference policy committee with the recommendation that the resolutions be approved and forwarded to the executive board of the American Federation of Labor.

MILNER PRESIDES

Cornelius Maiden, national organizer for the AF of L, was in charge of the meeting and George W. Milner, second vice-president of the International Longshoremen's Association, presided during the adoption of the resolutions. W. Y. Bell, Jr., executive secretary of the Atlanta Urban League, read the resolutions to the body.

Approximately 200 persons packed the YMCA auditorium for the special session.

Jan. 17, 1943

In part, the resolutions read:

1. The Negro delegates request of the Southern War Labor Conference to recommend to the executive board of the American Federation of Labor that it establish committees on race relations; committees whose job would be or consist of using Negro labor more effectively in carrying on the War program, and to expand the interracial goodwill within the ranks of the American Federation of Labor.

2. Negro delegates urge the Conference to endorse all efforts to remove the poll tax by state and federal action.

HIT DRAFT BOARDS

3. Negro delegates urge that this Conference go on record as being opposed to the local disregard of National Selective Service policies, and that it recommend to the executive board of the American Federation of Labor that it take whatever measures it can to see that the policies of the National Selective Service Act are carried out uniformly in this region.

Jan. 17, 1943

4. The Negro delegates urge this Conference to recommend to the executive board of the American Federation of Labor that it work to secure Negro representation on the policy-forming groups and staffs of regional federal agencies such as the War Manpower Commission, Office of Price Administration, War Labor Board, Security Board and the Office of War Information.

Mr. Maiden said a colored delegate will address the conference at the City Auditorium today. He said the speaker would be the Rev. W. M. Jones, district vice-president of the South Atlantic and Gulf Coast district of the International Longshoremen's Association.

OFFICIALS ARE SPEAKERS

Several prominent speakers, some of them Government officials, graced the floor at the special meeting held by the colored delegates.

Frank P. Fenton, white, director of organization for the AF of L., told the audience that the American Federation of Labor was fighting for the Negro long before President Roosevelt set up his committee on Fair Employment Practice. He advised his hearers to be practical and not be misled.

"You've got to get more leaders of the Booker T. Washington type who are not afraid to suffer," he declared.

Organizer Maiden called on the group to "fight together" if they expected to get their full rights.

Vice-President Milner, traced the history of Negro labor, pointing out how laborers who used to earn only 40 cents a day are now earning $12 a day and more.

CITES FEPC

Cy W. Record, white, field representative of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, showed several instances where Negroes in the South have secured good-paying jobs in Defense plants.

He reminded the group, however, that advances have got to be made on their own initative.

George Streator, of the War Production Board, in a very timely address, called on Negro laborers to learn how to organize themselves and suggested that they take more young men into their organizations.

A.F.OF L.

The War Labor Conference will be terminated today at the City Auditorium. It is being sponsored by the executive boards of the 11 southern state federations of labor, the organization department of the American Federation of Labor and the labor division of the War Production Board.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
January 24, 1943

News of Atlanta's Negro Community

By WILLIAM Y. BELL JR.

Marked by the presence and participation of 200 Negro delegates from all parts of the South, the Southern War Labor Conference of the American Federation of Labor and the War Production Board's labor division closed its two-day meeting here last Sunday with statements calling for equal rights of all in labor regardless of race, and repeal of the poll tax as a condition of voting.

A plea for fairness and tolerance was voiced by the Rev. W. M. Jones, Negro district vice president of the International Longshoremen's Association, as he addressed the closing session of the conference.

Praising the A. F. of L., the Rev. Jones said that Negroes were seeking only the rights given by the United States Constitution. He urged white friends to go up the road together with Negro workers.

J. R. Weyler, white general representative of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners and chairman of the policy committee, warned that other labor organizations will certainly take in those Negro workers who are not given a fair deal in the A. F. of L.

With only one dissenting vote, a special meeting of Negro delegates asked the conference to recommend the establishment of a committee on race relations to the A. F. of L. executive board, the job of the committee being to expand interracial good will within the ranks of the A. F. of L.

The delegates also asked the conference to recommend action by the executive board on the need of Negro representation on regional federal agencies and on the need for uniform application of national selective-service policies by local draft boards which draft both white and Negro workers with children before others with fewer dependents have been taken.

The Negro unionists concluded their statement by pointing out that since Negro workers in the South easily form 40 per cent of the working force, the interests of Negro labor must be considered. "One-tenth of the United States, one-third of this Southland cannot be overlooked if America is to win this war. We are Americans, too," they said.

Fenton Speaks

Frank P. Fenton, A. F. of L. director of organizations and erstwhile member of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, told the special gathering that he had dedicated his life to fighting against the abuses of America.

"Discriminatory unions must learn that Negroes must be in the labor movement or they will be outside. There can be no decent wage system with one standard for whites and another for colored."

He urged Negroes to try to get more leaders of the Booker T. Washington type "who will sacrifice for you instead of trying to get you into other organizations and using you for their own purposes."

Also present at the special Negro delegates' meeting were Cy W. Record, field representative of the War Man Power Commission, who reviewed some of the accomplishments of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice in the South, while admitting the difficulties under which it had worked; George Streator, of the WPB labor division, who gave sound advice on how Negroes might strengthen their labor movement, and George W. Milner, second vice president of the International Longshoremen's Association.

Maiden in Charge

Cornelius Maiden, general organizer for the A. F. of L., had general charge of the Negro delegates, presiding over their conference, arranging for their housing and entertainment, and looking after their interests.

Among the prominent Negro officials attending the conference were the Rev. W. M. Jones, vice president of the International Longshoremen's Association's Atlantic and Gulf Coast district; R. F. Finkley, vice president, Alabama State Federation of Labor; James Hampton, Alabama State Federation vice president; George W. Milner, second vice president of the longshoremen, and Cornelius Maiden.

Art Appreciation

An essay in art appreciation will be attempted at Rush Congregational Church this afternoon at 5:30 when Fenuel P. Jones holds a public organization program aimed at establishing a fine arts study club in Atlanta.

Those interested in drama, music, poetry, sculptoring, painting and the other arts have been invited to attend and participate in what may prove to be the first step toward filling a need long felt by many Atlantians interested in the arts.

Dr. Taba at Evening School

Dr. Hilda Taba, formerly of the University of Chicago and now at Emory University, was presented by the professional committee of the Booker T. Washington High Evening School at a public meeting held at the school last Tuesday night.

Among those present and participating in the discussion which followed Dr. Taba's address were President and Mrs. J. P. Brawley, Professor and Mrs. E. Luther Brooks, Mrs. Birdie Wallace and Professor N. Stewart, of Clark College; Professor H. Furlowe, Mrs. A. C. Williams, Mrs. H. F. Shorter, Professor and Mrs. George Towns, Mrs. Anne Cochrane, and Dr. B. R. Brazeal, of Morehouse College.

The speaker was introduced by Dr. L. Haskew, president Georgia Educational Association, and closing remarks were made by Principal Charles L. Gideons.

To put it briefly, your delegates looked and acted pretty much as our delegates do.

Which leads me to my second conclusion, to wit, that on the basic problems facing the workers and the nation, in the South as in the North, your folks and my folks are in profound agreement.

You are all-out for the war and for victory. The delegates reaffirmed the no-strike pledge. They cheered President William Green's Bilbo's Miss[illegible] gave them their answer.

SUB-STANDARD WAGES
The Worker, New York
Jan 24 1943

I was very impressed with the way the Conference dealt with one question which is peculiarly a Southern problem, that of low, or sub-standard wages that persist in many Southern industries employing a tremendous number of work-

pledge to fulfill the production quotas for 1943 which are more than double those of 1942.

A second basic point of agreement: the delegates and the overwhelming majority of the leaders are determined to block the Southern poll-tax bloc in Congress which against the President's Executive the-war policy. plans to destroy the 40-hour week, Order 8802 and the Fair Employ- to repeal labor legislation, to pass ment Practice Committee, which anti-strike laws and to sabotage forbids discrimination against Ne-

Roosevelt's win-the-war policies. Communists and "Roosevelt agents from Dixon's Rankin, Cox and Dies, have always pretended that they speak for the "majority" of the Southern people in their vicious drives against Roosevelt and his victory policies. And so, too, with their fight from the North" support this win- Well, Joe, your legates from Dixon's Jones' Louisiana, and from Virginia, and from Byrd's Alabama, from

ers.

The conference declaration called for the raising of the minimum wage level to a fair standard, and insisted on the right of labor and management to increase sub-standard wages without recourse to the War Labor Board, or to the Little Steel yardstick.

The conference devoted its major attention to the problems of winning the war, but it did discuss certain post-war problems. I was glad that President Green and other speakers gave such vigorous support to President Roosevelt's proposals for broadening and strengthening social security legislation in order to protect "from the cradle to the grave."

I have gone into this detail to support my "second conclusion" that on all basic questions, the Southern workers, whether represented by the CIO or AFL, are in agreement. Naturally, something follows from that—**it is that your people and my people must find ways to work together.**

JAN 24 1943

WE MUST COOPERATE

When you stop to consider that the most effective representatives of the anti-labor, anti-Roosevelt anti-war crowd are the Southern Congressmen and Senators, ther. there is every added reason why in the South especially, the CIO and the AFL must cooperate.

I believe that both you and I hope that when the AFL and CIO committees on labor unity resume their negotiations in two weeks (as announced by President Green at Atlanta) that real progress will be made in this direction.

In conclusion I would not have you think that I agreed with everything that was said and done at Atlanta. And since you asked me what I thought about Atlanta, I do not believe you will consider it presumptious if I indicate my disagreements.

I felt it unfortunate that President Green should have devoted time to boasting of AFL achievements in contrast to what he considered CIO lack of achievements, and that he should have tried to place all the blame for the division in the ranks of labor on the CIO. Thereby be simply placed obstacles to unity.

I considered most dangerous and disruptive the remarks of Matthew Woll intended to throw fear and suspicion on one of our allies, the Soviet Union. This was a serious blow to our war effort and to the unity of our allies in the United Nations.

As to conduct in the conference, I regretted that no Negro spoke; no woman took the floor; and there was no discussion on the floor from rank and file delegates. Obviously, this great and historic conference would have been even better had this participation by the delegates themselves been guaranteed.

But all of these are minor points compared to the big, positive contribution that the AFL's Southern War Labor Conference made to the South, to the nation, and to the war effort. My congratulations and my thanks.

Fraternally,

GEORGE.

A Southern CIO Worker Writes To His Friends in the AFL

By Robert F. Hall

The Editor of THE WORKER asked me to write a summary of the Southern War Labor Conference of the American Federation of Labor held at Atlanta last week-end. There are certain conclusions that, in my opinion, ought to be pointed out. It struck me that the most effective way to do this would be to look at this AFL conference through the eyes of a CIO worker, in order to emphasize the things which Southern AFL and CIO workers, have in common. Thus was the letter below written, from a wholly imaginary George to an equally imaginary Joe. But any resemblance between my two characters and real workers you may know in the CIO and AFL is not accidental. For the whole point is that, in the main, the reaction to Southern and national problems and the desire for unity, expressed in this letter, are rapidly becoming typical of the MAJORITY of Southern workers.

JAN 24 1943

Dear Joe:

You are a member of the AFL. I am a member of the CIO. We are both Southerners, workers, who know that not only our lives, but more important, our homes, our freedom and the future of our children depend on victory of the United Nations over the Axis thugs.

You have asked me what I thought about the Southern War Labor Conference of the AFL held at Atlanta last week-end. That's a good question.

AFL STRONG IN SOUTH

First, those 3,500 delegates from 12 states represented at least a million Southern workers. The AFL in the South is strong, and stronger today than at any time in its history. Those delegates came from local unions, central and state bodies, and more important, from the mills, factories and shipyards where ore which my buddies mine, and steel which my fellow-unionists make, are being transformed into ships, guns, shells and planes for our common war against the Axis.

There were 300 Negro delegates among them, representing, acccording to George Googe, your Southern representative, about 300,000 Negro workers who are members of the AFL in these 12 states.

There were women delegates, there, too, not just from the auxiliaries, and the union label leagues, but from shops and shipyards where they are doing war production.

In other words, these delegates represented no "aristocracy of labor."

Negroes Given Rebuff at AFL Convention Here

By ROBERT H. McKEE

Negro delegates within the Georgia Federation of Labor received a rebuff Friday when they brought before the state convention here a resolution asking for two paid organizers, a publicity man and an enlarged sphere of "co-operation."

President Albert Gossett, of the Atlanta Federation of Trades, told sponsors of the resolution that it would serve as an avenue by which outside forces would seek to "destroy and disrupt." Mr. Gossett was chairman of the resolutions committee which recommended to the convention that the proposals be rejected. He explained that several Negro delegates likewise had considered the resolution to be unwise.

Mr. Gossett and Dewey L. Johnson, who spoke on the resolution, made several references to "outside influences" which they said were striving to wreck the program of the American Federation of Labor. Mr. Gossett declared that when organization work was instituted under auspices of the federation "we will do the organizing and expect those taken into the union to live up to principles of the American Federation of Labor and not the C. I. O."

Good Faith Questioned

Mr. Johnson faced the Negro delegation at the convention and told them frankly he did not believe the resolution was brought in good faith and that he did not take kindly to the "long-haired, wild-eyed fellows from the colleges" who strive to tell labor now to conduct its affairs.

"I sincerely doubt the good intentions of those who brought this resolution so that it can be taken back and used as propaganda against the A. F. of L.," said Mr. Johnson. "It seems to me that you are taking advantage of the war situation, something you wouldn't do in ordinary times. Such reacts against you, you don't make progress when you attack your friends."

The discussion was terminated when one of the Negro delegates moved that the matter be dropped.

Recent utterances of Captain Eddie Rickenbacker on American labor were brought under fire when a resolution (sanctioned previously by labor groups here and elsewhere) was unanimously adopted asking that Congress investigate the motives and forces backing the captain in his criticism of labor.

Mr. Johnson asked that the newspapers deviate from "publicity that we are attacking Captain Rickenbacker," for there would always be some one with his motives seeking to break the back of organized labor.

He questioned the logic of "making a hero out of a man just because he has been in an accident." He said he realized that Captain Rickenbacker had a fine record in World War I, but that "the Captain Rickenbacker of today is far removed from the Rickenbacker of World War I."

"If we make heroes of every one who has been in an accident I imagine most of us here would be heroes from automobile accidents and the like. Yes, I've read that story of the seagull. It may be true but it certainly sounds fantastic. He exploited that experience (on a raft for three weeks in the Pacific) to the limit and in his book tried to build up a personal publicity campaign at the expense of others who were on the rafts."

The Wage Freeze

Mr. Johnson said that among Captain Rickenbacker's companions on the raft were members of the A. F. of L. He said enemies of labor were constantly on the lookout for means of bringing their attacks. First, it was strikes, then th 40-hour week, he declared. Finally they placed emphasis on absenteeism and then pushed Captain Rickenbacker to the fore.

George L. Gouge, Southern representative for the A. F. of L., said he was not optimistic that the President will relax his orders on the freezing of wages and jobs. He proposed that the question be laid before Southern congressmen in an effort to acquire their support.

The convention proposed that the name of Jerome Jones, deceased Atlanta Labor leader, be selected as first choice for a Liberty ship to be launched on Labor Day after completion of a drive for War Bonds under auspices of the State Federation of Labor. The name of the late Robert Fechner was proposed as an alternate.

The meeting was to end Friday afternoon with election of officers as the final order of business.

Spirited opposition was voiced by the convention in its Thursday session to the order of the War Manpower Commission specifying jail sentences for persons violating the WMC's freeze of wages and jobs in certain industries.

"It is something new in American life," a resolution adopted by the convention said, "when a bureau created by edict can impose penalties of imprisonment and fines for violating such edicts."

Union Race Lines Deplored by AFL

World-Telegram

New York, N. Y.

By the Associated Press.

BOSTON, Mass., Oct. 12.—The American Federation of Labor convention adopted today a committee report deploring race discrimination in unions after debate provoked a Negro delegate's charge that some unions gave his race only the right to pay dues.

President William Green declared "If I had my way every organization in the AFL would admit Negroes to membership on the same basis of equality as whites." The convention applauded his statement.

Frey Scores Criticism.

Charles J. MacGowan of the boilermakers' union, replying to the accusations of A. Philip Randolph of the sleeping car porters' union, said his union had long been recognized as an advocate of protection for Negro workers.

John P. Frey, president of the AFL metal trades department, termed Mr. Randolph's statements "most dangerous" and the "greatest disservice to the colored race since the Negro became a free man."

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt entitled, If I Were a Negro. He said Mrs. Roosevelt wrote that she would not do too much demanding, I would accept every advance made but not try to hasten them."

He quoted from a recent article in the Negro Digest written by a conscription and declared it would "hamstring the war effort."

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Convention Debate Due On AFL Discrimination

PM
New York, N. Y.

Randolph Demands Equal Union Rights for Negroes

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN
Staff Correspondent

BOSTON, Oct. 12.—A full-dress debate on discrimination against Negro workers by American Federation of Labor unions was scheduled to open today at the AFL annual convention, which yesterday heard A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and a convention delegate, declare:

"Brothers, let me warn you that unless a sound, unequivocal and definite position is taken on the question of democracy for Negroes in the AFL and other agencies, that the tides of fascism are going to rise in this country and wipe out not only the Negroes but organized labor as well."

The Negro labor leader spoke for 45 minutes against the statements of policy introduced by the AFL resolutions committee because "We disagree on the scope of the report." The resolution, which will be passed today by the 600 delegates, calls for:

¶ Education against race prejudice in the trade union movement.

¶ Endorsement of the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

¶ Appointment of a subcommittee on minority questions as part of the AFL postwar problems committee.

Voice in Policy

The convention passed a resolution demanding that American and British labor be given a voice "in helping to determine AMG (Allied Military Government) policy, if the liberated peoples of Europe are to have any confidences in AMG decisions. American labor must also have a voice in the determination of labor policies of such agencies as the OWI (Office of War Information) and the Office of Strategic Services."

A resolution introduced by the Retail Clerks International Protective Assn. calling for "co-operation with President Roosevelt" and "support of his Administration" in its fight for subsidies and the projected OPA price rollback was sidetracked by the resolutions committee, which referred it to the executive council for "further study." There was no debate on the motion, and it passed without protest.

The endorsement of the Italian-American Labor Council, headed by Luigi Antonini, was accompanied by a statement that:

"It is unfortunate and to be regretted that such organizations as the AFL, the Italian-American Labor Council or the (Italian) General Confederation of Labor Delegation, have not been consulted on the labor policy of the AMG."

In another declaration, the delegates voted a condemnation of the NLRB (National Labor Relations Board) because the "old, remaining, prejudiced personnel dominates the Board, and that the present members are too weak or unwilling to resist the strong favoritism displayed by employed personnel for rival organizations," a reference to the NLRB's alleged bias in favor of the CIO.

Foreshadows Battle

Significance of the resolution is that it foreshadows a battle by AFL leaders, headed by John P. Frey, against the NLRB when present restrictive amendments passed as a "rider" to an appropriations bill at the last Congressional session expire next year.

Unanimous passage of the NLRB resolution was followed shortly by the resolution on Anti-Negro Discrimination. The committee reported that AFL policy in fighting color restrictions has led to the entry within the AFL of more than 500,000 Negroes, making the AFL "The largest organization of colored workers in the world."

"It is obvious"—and this is the heart of the resolution, which today exemplifies the approach to discrimination by the AFL top chieftains—"that the goal we aim for, the best interests of the American people as a whole, and our democratic way of life, can not be secured by one stroke or through the method of decrees, mechanical order or threats handed down from high."

AFofL

In his address, which the delegates listened to in silence, applause being reserved only upon its completion, Randolph lashed out at the Jim Crow auxiliary locals in some AFL unions which he characterized as "Trade union misrule and imperialism."

His address ended the day's session, thus shutting off any immediate answer by officials of the Boilermakers and Electrical Workers, who angrily charged up the platform, demanding to be heard immediately. William Green, AFL president, called for adjournment because the convention hall had to be cleared for the Annual AFL Banquet.

AFL Convention Told There Must Be Complete Unity Of All Workers Without Regard To Race Or Color

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

BOSTON, Mass.—Organized labor of America must continue to play a leading part in a successful war effort and also in post-war rehabilitation, Monsignor Francis J. Haas, chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, told the 63rd annual convention of the American Federation of Labor, Wednesday afternoon. But in doing this, he continued, the complete unity of all workers without regard to race, creed, color or national origin is an essential.

RACE BIAS DEPLORED

BOSTON Mass.—On Tuesday, the American Federation of Labor in convention adopted a committee report deploring race discrimination in unions, after debate provoked A. Philip Randolph, international president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, to make the charge that some unions gave Negroes only the right to pay dues.

President William Green declared that "if I had my way, every organization in the AFL would admit Negroes to membership on the same basis of equality as whites." He was heartily applauded.

"Your record in war production is known to the world," he said "The front line army knows it. The naval gunner knows it. The pilot in Alaska fog takes confidence from it. The battle of production is in good hands and will remain so. But some day you will be confronted with the other battle, the fight to re-adjust our lives after the war is won. In the winning of that fight, too, I rest my hopes for success on the sound organization of American labor."

Touching on the future, he said: "Where shall the American Federation of Labor find itself on its 70th birthday? What allegiance nity and strength American working men and women? Will it be a select organization, chosen by some limited measurement of worthiness to join it? Or will it have a broad base upon which can stand in dignity and etrength American workmen of any race, of any creed, or any color? In striving for a basis of judgment in this matter, I think we can gain much wisdom by comparing the experiences of the trade union movement during the last World War, and during this one."

As chairman of FEPC, he said he has seen and now knows the aspirations of minority group members to obtain opportunity for economic security.

"In trade union terms," he declared, "they wish to own the right to settle grievances, and to negotiate contracts through representatives of their own choosing to work for, their seniority rights, to share in the opportunity for security for their families, and to participate as free men in that modern equivalent of the New England town meeting, the trade union.

"Some people there are who cherish intolerance above the needs of their country. To them I say that this war is not yet won, that we need every available man and woman and every acquired skill, no matter who owns it. We need them as they need us, both now and in the building of the peace and order after the war.

"Organized labor's duty towards its countrmy is being magnificently accomplished. The duty of organized labor to itself is to keep strong and to maintain its democratic structure against all forces. That there might be welded now a unity which, in the post war period, can withstand any possible disintegrating influence, is the part of patriotism and the clear duty of good trade unionism."

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

AFL Deplores Race Discrimination by Unions

By Joseph A. Loftus
Associated Press Staff Writer

Boston, Mass., Oct. 12.—The American Federation of Labor convention adopted today a committee report deploring race discrimination in unions after an extensive debate provoked by a Negro delegate's charge that some unions gave his race only the right to pay dues.

President William Green, participating in the discussion, declared, "If I had my way every organization in the AFL would admit Negroes to membership on the same basis of equality as whites." The convention applauded his statement. Green said, however, he felt the problem could be solved only by understanding and education "and never through the application of force."

Charles J. MacGowan of the Boilermakers, the first to reply to the accusations of A. Philip Randolph, of the Sleeping Car Porters, said he and his union had long been recognized as an advocate of protection for the Negro workers.

May Not Be Answer

Our international union, and its officers, has never discriminated in hire, wages, and working conditions because of race, color, creed or national oigin," MacGowan said. "This auxiliary proposition," he said, referring to the separate groups into which Negrfoes are organized, "may not be the entire answer but you've got to take conditions as you find them, hot as you wish them."

Other speakers were G. W. Bug-head asserted that he feared Randiazet, secretary of the Electrical dolph's statement would be printed Workers, Roy Horn, president of and widely circulated among mem- Randolph's statements "most dan- shipyards in San Francisco Bay as rous" and the "greatest disserv- against none 18 months ago. He to the colored race since then said that the Negroes had Negro became a free man."

The metal trades' department Frey, in a sharp retort, termed were 8000 Negroes employed in the Blacksmiths, John P. Frey bers of his arse and foste discon- president of the AFL Metal Tradestent. As evidence that the Negro department, and W. L. Allen, rpesi- worker was not being discriminated dent of the Telegraphers. against. Frey asserted that there

First Lady Quoted

Frey then quoted from a recent opposition to labor conscription article appearing in the Negro Di- and declared it would "hamstring gest written by Mrs. Franklin D. the war effort." Roosevelt entitled, "If I Were a Negro." He said Mrs. Roosevelt wrote that she "would not do too much demanding, I would accept every advance made but not try to abused the union by flocking into

Coast.

gress for labor production of the War Production Board, expressed Joseph D. Keenan, vice chairrecruitment of the additional number of needed workers, plus aggressive improvement in utilization, plus aggressive increase in productivity," all of which, he said, would add up to a cure for produc-

rike-breakers dur- age on the West

tion problems so far as they involve manpower.

"I think we can—if we are realistic—provide the incentives for such improved utilization," he added, "and increased productivity and necessary recruitment, that we can achieve our goals without having to risk any dangerous gambles in the form of regimentation of management and labor."

of the United States in spite of the fact that many of the persons so accommodated by Mr. Fish are openly sympathetic to Nazism and Fascism."

This Fish resolution follows an earlier attack on his use of the postal frank at the recent American Legion convention.

Groups Attacking Labor Aid Fascism, AFL Told

PM
New York, N. Y.
OCT 7 1943

Resolution Urges Prosecution Of Ham Fish for Abuse of Frank

By Arnold Beichman
Staff Correspondent

BOSTON, Oct. 7.—Joseph A. Padway, general counsel of the American Federation of Labor, yesterday warned delegates to the annual convention that reactionary groups like the Christian-American Assn.—"neither Christian nor American"—and the Associated Farmers which are seeking "to destroy the labor movement" are bringing fascism to America.

Twelve state legislatures during the past year have passed laws restricting the rights of labor unions and imposing "absolute government control of their minutest affairs," Padway declared.

Features of Laws

"We have never had a greater demonstration of American fascism," he said, "than this past year. Because of our absorption with the war, time hasn't been given by labor to a consideration of what these laws mean. We have lost sight of their calamitous effects."

Characteristic of the laws passed by 12 states are these three motifs:

¶ Unions must be licensed or incorporated as a condition of doing business, thus giving the state the power of life or death over labor organizations.

¶ Labor disputes are so defined as to restrict them to the employer and his immediate employes, thus preventing a union from speaking for its membership.

¶ Rigid control over the internal affairs of labor groups.

Padway called upon labor to "be on its guard, because, unless we are able to thwart the passage of these laws, fascism has come to America."

Negro Discrimination

The touchy problem of Negro discrimination by AFL unions, an annual convention topic of debate between A. Philip Randolph, president of the International Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and the "Lily-white" AFL affiliates, came up yesterday in the resolutions committee.

Randolph's union has presented a resolution which, if passed, would empower the executive council to set up a minorities committee on discrimination "for the purpose of thoroughly exploring the question of discrimination practiced against minority groups by unions affiliated with the AFL in various industries" and "to investigate various cases of discrimination that may be presented to it."

Haas Speaks

Earlier Monsignor Francis J. Haas, chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, who addressed the 63rd annual convention, said:

"Just as once there existed unhealthy agreements between anti-labor employers and anti-labor workers, so there exists a danger that some labor organizations and some employers may combine to restrict the rights of minority group members. Put yourself in the place of a member of a minority group."

A resolution calling for Congressional investigation of Rep. Hamilton Fish (R., N. Y.), and Justice Dept. prosecution under the espionage act was presented today by the Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Trades and Labor Council delegation in Fish's home district. It charged that Fish "has permitted and is still permitting the use of his postal frank by persons inimical to the interests

'Czar' Ryan Proclaims: Fake 'Democracy' for Women and Negroes

The Worker
New York, N. Y.
SEP 26 1943

By ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN

Well, trade union sisters of the A. F. of L. of New York State, behold your latest "champion," Waterfront "czar" Joseph Ryan of the International Longshoremen's Union! Dressed in conservative but fashionable garb, Joe was a delegate to the recent New York State convention. As chairman of the Constitution Committee Joe put on his best manners, actually spoke in a low and well-modulated voice, and argued eloquently for "democracy," no less.

The "goons" of South Brooklyn's Red Hook district on West St. would never know their gentleman Joe. Gone was the tough guy who throws people out of conventions and has himself elected for life as president of his union. But as the leopard does not change its spots nor the wolf become Red Riding Hood's grandmother—beware of Joe Ryan when he champions your "rights," in a soothing syrup voice. It's likely he's giving you a "Mickey Finn." Which is just exactly what happened.


ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN

The constitution of the N. Y. State Federation of Labor provides for eleven members on their executive committee. It did stipulate up to this last convention that **one must be a woman.** This was a progressive provision. It guaranteed that at least one woman would be elected to the governing body. Mrs. Betty Hawley Donnelly has been the one woman member so far.

This provision was removed at the last convention, without a dissenting vote. One woman delegate, Gertrude Lane, spoke against the action. Joe Ryan was the steamroller operator for the committee. His argument was, "Why only **one** woman? Why not a half dozen women? We are a democratic organization!"

This sounds very up and coming, doesn't it? All for the ladies—God bless 'em! But if **one lone woman** is elected in the future with no guarantees in the constitution insisting upon it—I'll certainly be surprised, although I wish Mrs. Donnelly the best of luck. It was a step backward, a slap at their women, a denial of their right to even one voice, a reversion to the old methods of all-male representation, sugar-coated as democracy.

"Why make any distinction between men and women?" they argued to defend it. "All are union members and should be selected on that basis." But we women know from sad and bitter experience it doesn't work out that way.

What was the occasion in this year 1943, when women are playing a historic role in American industry, for the Empire State AFL to do this deceptive thing to their women members?

Yes, there was a reason, and here we see the kind of low, slimy, tricky methods which Ryan and his type of labor misleader are capable of resorting to. Later in the sessions, a constitutional amendment was proposed to enlarge the same executive committee **in order to include a Negro member.** No use to expect anyone giving up their soft seat, so this was proposed in order to be able to actually include negro representation.

Then the cat came out of the bag—claws a-scratching. The constitution committee—in the person of the double-talking Mr. Ryan—be interrogated and said that this is entirely unnecessary. After all, "the Negroes are just like the women, equal members in one democratic set-up." They get elected to our executive committee without any such provision—or sooner if it is possible to do so. Negro members should allow the issue of equal and proportional nothing to stop them.

It was a trick to defeat the Negro amendment that the women were likewise excluded from a similar constitutional guarantee. To prevent at least one Negro being elected, the women were used as a club. Some of the labor leaders tried to explain it to their women folks, who were pretty sore, by saying: "But look, there's a lot of these white guys in favor of electing a Negro so we had to do something fast." Which they did.

So the Negro AFL members were likewise fooled and cheated in this sleight-of-hand trick of the experienced Joe Ryan. If one lone Negro gets elected to their executive board, it will be a miracle.

I wonder how many delegates were deceived by this cheap chicanery? If they were, they are certainly child-like in their innocence. Women and the Negro people have had to fight side by side for their democratic rights in our country during the last century. They must do so even in the labor movement. All progressives are bound on principle to support their rights.

The AFL executive body nationally hasn't one woman member. Old guard labor misleaders like Joe Ryan are chary of permitting new elements, who have had to fight for democracy, practicing it inside their old line trade unions. But neither the women nor the Negro members should be fooled by the Joe Ryans. Delegates should see through this issue, if they were confused and cleared up on this issue, if they were confused in a mistaken manner. It should be righted and the harm done. Women and Negro members undone at the next convention, if it is possible to do so.

Out Came the Cat

week by the Douglas-Washington Institute which said the total colored membership of the AFL and CIO is "400,000 in good standing." Mr. Maiden declared the 1,500,000 colored members of the AFL are in good standing.

Mr. Maiden came to Atlanta Sunday to attend a labor forum at Cosmopolitan A. M. E. Church. He returns this morning to Columbus, where he is conducting an election among textile workers there.

Maiden Gives AFL Figures Untrue

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Says Institute Report Untrue

Cornelius Maiden, general organizer for the American Federation of Labor, declared Sunday that the AFL has a colored membership of more than 1,500,000.

Mr. Maiden's statement was in answer to a survey released last

351-1943

A.F.OFL.

AFL REFUSES TO CHANGE ITS NEGRO POLICY

Birmingham ... Negro Digest
October 14, 1943

Committee Report Leaves Question Largely "As Is"

BOSTON—(FP)—"If I had my way," Pres. William Green told the 63rd AFL convention here Oct. 12, "every AFL affiliate would admit Negroes to membership on the same basis as others." His statement came at the height of a stormy debate on Negro discrimination which lasted through most of the morning session.

"Despite his earlier plea, "Please, please, let us avoid this awful controversy," Green entered the debate after a procession of AFL leaders took the floor to defend themselves against charges of anti-Negro practices, leveled by Pres. A. Philip Randolph of the Bro. of Sleeping Car Porters at the previous day's session. Randolph's attack came during consideration of a resolutions committee report suggesting education, rather than "threats handed down from on high," as a solution for discrimination.

FIRST ATTACK ON RANDOLPH CAME FROM VICE PRES. CHAS. J. MacGOWAN of the Intl. Bro. of Boilermakers, who rose to defend his union's auxiliary locals for Negroes. "We must take conditions as we find them," he said heatedly adding that the greatest obstacle to solution of the Negro problem was demands put forth by "professional" Negroes.

Next to take the floor was Sec. G. M. Bugniazet of the Intl. Bro. of Electrical Workers, who said the only requirement for admission into his union was competency although, he explained later, the locals had complete autonomy. The same argument of local autonomy was offered by Pres. Roy Horn of the Intl. Bro. of Blacksmiths and Pres. W. L. Allen of the Commercial Telegraphers Union.

Randolph's speech was "the most dangerous statement which has ever been made about the American Federation of Labor," Pres. John P. Frey of the Metal Trades Dept. told the delegates. Frey said he was afraid that Randolph's speech would be printed in pamphlet form and sent throughout the country to alienate Negroes from the AFL.

SPEAKING IN SUPPORT OF THE COMMITTEE REPORT, Frey said its purpose was to lay down a basic policy of non-discrimination. But, he added, many locals were "understandably prejudiced" against Negroes because they have been used as strikebreakers.

While delegates were calling for the question Green, obviously upset by the crackling debate, asked to be heard. "Your rapt attention," he told the meeting, "is evidence of the AFL's desire to understand this problem. And this question is a mounting current running through our national economic and social life. It is not a question for the AFL only. We see evidences of the intensity of the problem everywhere."

Warming up to his subject, Green then charged that the AFL was being "put in the doghouse" by prominent Negro organizations such as the Natl. Urban League and the Natl. Assn. for Advancement of Colored People, who are mobilizing Negro sentiment against the AFL.

At the conclusion of the debate, the committee report was adopted by a unanimous voice vote.

Move to Halt Jim Crow Firings

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

(Special to the Daily Worker)

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 25.—Rear Admiral Emory S. Land, chairman of the Maritime Commission, yesterday called upon the Marinship Corp. at Sausalito to hold up dismissal of 430 Negro shipyard workers on the basis of a jimcrow agreement with AFL unions.

The 430 were not in "good standing" in Local 6 of the International Boilermakers, because they either refused to belong to a Negro auxiliary or protested the union's jimcrow policy by refusing to pay dues in it.

In the Maritime Fair Employment Practice Committee hearings continued at Los Angeles, following a similar hearing at Portland's Kaiser yards, involving the same issue.

The company takes the stand that under the master West Coast ship agreement with the AFL's metal trades, it is required to fire the Negroes. The union made formal notice to the 430 Negro workers that they were not in "good standing."

AFL Builders Union Defy

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Job Prejudice

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The International Union of Operating Engineers, powerful member of the AFL Building and Construction Trades group, has officially reaffirmed its opposition to discrimination in its membership, it was announced recently by the Fair Employment Practice Committee. A letter from William E. Maloney, president of the union, to the committee declares:

"I can assure you that our local unions are open to membership for those who qualify as operators of equipment coming within the jurisdiction of our International Union, and our local unions have been instructed that discrimination against applicants because of race, creed or color will not be tolerated."

COMMITTEE GETS CASE

Receipt of the letter followed adjustment of a situation involving alleged refusal of employment to two Negro members of the union by the foreman of a government project to which they had been referred by the business agent of their local. The business agent immediately reported the case to the committee and, on the next requisition from the project, referred four Negroes.

On the advice of the committee also, the business agent took up the matter with the project foreman and was told that a number of the white workers had threatened to walk off when Negroes were put on the job. The union official promptly informed the foreman that he would "replace any operating engineer who quit" for such a reason.

Two more Negroes have since been added to the project. There has been no work stoppage.

Racial Issue Put Squarely Up to AF of L

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
BULLETIN

In a late radio announcement, Tuesday, on the AFL convention, William L. Green, president of the AFL, was quoted as saying that if it was left up to him all racial discrimination in the AFL unions would be abolished.

BOSTON, (ANP).—Leaders of the AFL convention here were seeking to avert bitter debate Monday on the "lily white" union issue raised by A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, but little hope was held for its avoidance when Randolph announced that a statement of policy submitted to him by Matthew Woll, chairman, and John P. Frey, secretary, of the resolutions committee, held "nothing concrete on which we can come to an agreement."

Randolph has stated that he is ready to carry his resolution to the convention floor for a complete airing of the issue unless the AFL makes a definite commitment on auxiliary unions. Several delegates have indicated that they will support his position, shared by his co-worker, Milton P. Webster, vice president of the porters' union. Randolph and Webster are the only two colored delegates to the national meeting.

Hit Jim Crow Unions

Woll and Frey formulated the statement, contents of which went undisclosed in an effort to effect a compromise on the question to avert a floor debate such as marked the AFL convention last year when Randolph assailed his colleagues for setting up auxiliary unions, which he charges are in fact jim crow units barring colored from attending conventions and voting or aiding in selection of officers although they must pay dues.

This, said Randolph, is tantamount to "taxation without representation." The two unions officials have agreed to confer further with Randolph on the statement. Randolph and Webster have submitted a resolution to the convention getting at the roots of race prejudice in the labor movement.

Pay Tribute To Leader on Labor Day

Daily Worker
Atlanta, Georgia

Labor Groups 'To

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Georgia
tend a ship-launching ceremony to
be named for Jerome Jones, former
editor of the Journal of Labor.

John H. Glenn, member of the Labor Day Finance Committee and Secretary-Treasurer of the Laundry Workers' local union No. 218, and John S. King, of the Plasterers and Cement Finishers' Union No. 248 have been appointed to go to Savannah with this delegation. W. P. Smartt, A. F. L. representative, stated that "all of the AFL members will continue to work on war work on the day, and the American Federation of Labor is proud of the fact that there has not been any strike or stoppage of work in the South since our no-strike pledge went into effect."

Cornelius Maiden, general AFL organizer, pointed out in his address to the "Church and Labor" forum at Cosmopolitan A. M. E. church Sunday, August 22, that "the AFL did not have any contracts where race riots had been incited."

AFL UNIONS PAY 23 MILLION TO HELP MEMBERS

Railroad Groups in Lead, Report Shows.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois
BY GEORGE HARTMANN.

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

Boston, Mass., Oct. 12.—Death, sick, and other benefits paid to members of American Federation of Labor unions in the last year totaled approximately 23 million dollars, it was stated in an executive board report studied today by delegates attending the AFL's 63d annual convention.

The report showed that 30 international unions paid more than 22 million dollars in benefits; 64 others paid less than 1 million dollars, and 35 others listed no payments. Leading the entire group in the variety and amount of benefits paid were the railroad brotherhoods.

Unions listed as paying death, sick, disability, unemployment, old age, and other benefits included the International Printing Pressmen's union, the International Photo-engraver's union, the International Molders' and Foundry Workers' union, the Amalgamated Meat Cutters' and Butcher Workmen's union, the International Association of Machinists, the National Association of Letter Carriers, the International Ladies Garment Workers' union, and the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers.

Many Lack Payments.

Among the unions reporting no payments were several of the larger ones, including the carpenters, teamsters, musicians, and motion picture machine operators. Many local unions, it was said, have benefit systems independent of the international organizations.

Matthew Woll, head of the AFL committee on resolutions, refused to say when his group would submit its report on the application of John L. Lewis' United Mine Workers for reaffiliation with the AFL. Expected yesterday and again today, the report may be withheld until the special session of delegates called by Woll for tomorrow morning.

Today's session was adjourned at noon after the delegates had heard an address by Joseph D. Keenan, vice chairman for production of the war production board, and had adopted a committee report deploring racial discrimination in unions.

Urges "No Squawk" Pledge.

Keenan, who is on leave as secretary of the Chicago Federation of Labor, complimented labor for its war production record. He said labor's no strike pledge ought to be matched by a "no squawk pledge" on the part of those who are attacking labor.

Keenan expressed his opposition to labor conscription as a cure for production troubles.

"There are those who have a very dogmatic feeling that we have to have a boss in Washington to shunt labor around the country, to say where they must work, when they must work, and where they must work," he said. "While we cannot expect, of course, to attain a perfect utilization of labor, I suggest that aggressive recruitment of the additional number of needed workers, plus aggressive improvement in utilization, plus aggressive increase in worker productivity, will add up to provide a cure for our production problems so far as they involve man power."

Opposes Piecework Idea.

Plant-wide wage incentive plans, Keenan admitted, are justifiable in his opinion as war time measures under certain conditions, but he said he was personally opposed in principle to the basic idea of piecework or wage incentives.

Debate on racial discrimination was touched off by A. Phillip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, who said that the AFL should take active steps to eliminate union discrimination against Negroes rather than merely adopt a resolution suggesting it.

William Green, AFL president, who participated in the discussion, asserted:

"If I had my way, every organization in the AFL would admit Negroes to membership on the same basis of equality as whites.

Several labor leaders took the floor to deny the charges of discrimination made against their unions by Randolph. Negro membership in the AFL, it was said, totals 500,000.

High Court Ruling Hits Color Bar In AFL Union

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

By GEORGE F. McCRAY

The United States Circuit Court of Appeals in Washington Monday, struck the shackles of jim crow unionism from the legs of the Negro railroad worker and sounded the death knell for discriminatory practices which have enthroned prejudice in the railroad industry.

In a sweeping opinion the Court affirmed a decision by a lower court holding that Negro workers who do not accept Jim Crow are free to join the union of their choice. Some 20,000 Negro workers segregated in Jim Crow auxiliary unions in the railroad industry are affected by the historic decision.

Climaxes Three-Year Fight

The decision came as a climax in the three-year fight between Willard S. Townsend's United Transport Service Employees Union —CIO on one side, and George M. Harrison's Brotherhood of Railway Clerks and the National Mediation Board, on the other.

The litigation developed over the contention of the railway clerks with the support of the Mediation Board that they held jurisdiction over 45 Negro janitors and porters in St. Paul. The claim of the clerks was challenged by the Transport Workers and the case eventually went to the U. S. Court of Appeals.

Said Chief Justice C. J. Groner in delivering the court's unanimous decision: "The effect of the action of the Board is to force this particular group of employees (Negroes) to accept representation by an organization in which it (the Negroes) has no right to membership, nor right to speak or be heard in its own behalf. . . .

"It is, therefore, of no consequence that the porters were at one time dependent upon the Brotherhood as their spokesman with the railroad, for that never was a trusteeship of their own making. To perpetuate it by law would be to impose tyranny in many respects analagous to 'taxation without representation.'

"And if anything is certain, it is that Congress in passing the Act never for a moment dreamed that it would be construed to diminish the right of any citizen to follow a lawful vocation on the same or equal terms with his neighbor.

"In this view, to enforce the Board's decision would be contrary to both the word and the spirit of our laws."

Court Costs Heavy

The particular case on which the decision was based cost several thousand dollars to fight through the courts. It is a clear victory for the principle of close cooperation between organized labor groups and other organizations in the Negro community. It is highly significant that in this case the United Transport Workers received some assistance from the N.A.A.C.P.

For years the National Mediation Board, a governmental agency, taking orders from powerful lily-white unions represented in the railway labor executives association, has consistently refused to allow certain Negro railroad workers to select a union which would give them genuine representation.

This was done by placing Negro workers wherever possible under the jurisdiction of unions that admittedly refused to accept them at all or segregated them in Jim Crow units, under the complete control of the nearest white local. Thus segregated the Negro railroad workers had absolutely no voice in determining their wages, hours and working conditions.

As a matter of fact the clerks and other lily-white unions often did not even bother to exercise this paper jurisdiction over Negro workers. Neither the Negro nor his money was wanted before the CIO started organizing Negro workers in the railroad industry on a basis of equality.

Purely as a means of preventing the CIO from getting a foothold, the independent and AFL unions hit upon the idea of setting up Jim Crow auxiliary unions for Negroes.

Wherever self-respecting Negro workers refused to join such Jim Crow locals, the Mediation Board would step in and say in effect, "accept Jim Crow or nothing." Many Negroes accepted nothing, but failed to pool their brains and financial resources to test the principles of Jim Crow unionism in court.

The Brotherhood of Railway Clerks saw the handwriting on the wall. At their St. Louis convention in the spring, the union was prevented from dropping its Jim Crow policy only by the strong opposition of Southern delegates. The matter was referred to the general executive board of the union for final determination.

NLRB Rebukes Union AFL For Barring Negro Members

PM
New York, N. Y.

By GORDON H. COLE
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4. — The National Labor Relations Board today threw its weight behind the Fair Employment Practice Committee's attempt to enforce President Roosevelt's prohibition on racial discrimination.

In a unanimous decision involving the AFL Boilermakers' Union, the NLRB warned that the union might lose its right to be exclusive bargaining agent for employes in the Bethlehem shipyard at Alameda, Calif., if it continues to bar Negro workers from full membership in the union.

The FEPC is currently investigating charges that the Boilermaker's Union denies Negroes membership in its union and instead shunts all Negro shipyard workers within its jurisdiction into auxiliary locals.

Here is what the NLRB said about such union practices:

"We entertain grave doubt whether a union which discriminatorily denies membership to employes on the basis of race may nevertheless bargain as the exclusive representative in a unit composed in part of members of the excluded race."

At the same time, the NLRB warned employers that dismissal of Negro employes because of non-membership in a union in which they are denied full membership may constitute a violation of the Wagner Act.

Under this ruling of the NLRB, a closed shop contract which requires employes to join the union apparently is unenforceable in such cases.

During the course of the Board's hearing on this case, the Boilermakers' Union changed its position and made its Negro auxiliary a party to the request for representation.

"As we construe it," the Board held, "this expresses a purpose on the part of the (AFL) council to accord to the Negro auxiliary locals the same rights of affiliation and representation as it accords to its other affiliated locals."

The Board then cited the words of the President's order:

"It is the duty of all employers . . . and all organizations . . . to eliminate discrimination in regard to hire or tenure, terms of and conditions of employment, or union membership because of race, creed, color or national origin."

The Board concluded that it expects that the union "will comply with that policy."

351-1943

Baker Union Opens Door To First Negro Member

DEC 25 1943

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

Herbert Romero, former manager for the defunct Brown Bomber Baking company, was admitted December 15, into Local 802 of the Pastry and Bakers Union of the A. F. of L., the first Negro to be granted full membership.

Romero's admission to the union came after several weeks during which the fate of his own and recently started baking company hung in the balance while he battled for a baking contract against competition of larger white baking companies which have a monopoly of the Harlem business.

Romero submitted his membership application to Local 802 on the advice of Assistant District Attorney Dreiband, who advised the move as a test of the policy of the union towards granting Negroes full membership. The visit to the District Attorney's office came after Adam Powell, jr. head of the People's Committee wired District Attorney Hogan asking an investigation of the facts surrounding certain obstruction Romero had encountered in trying to get a baking contract.

TO OPEN BAKERY

Now with membership card in his pocket, Romero can go ahead with the plans for opening his own retail bakery shop at 2686 Eighth ave this week. He already is servicing over 75 stores and restaurants in the Harlem area among which are: Wells' restaurant; Pete's Creole restaurant; Oyster Bay; Henry's Sugar Bowl; Brown's restaurant; the three Walker Drug-Luncheonettes; the Savoy Ballroom and Bowman's Bar and Grill.

Friday Romero said he had been welcomed into Local 802 by both its president and secretary-treasurer, who denied any jimcrow policies in the organization. He also extended his thanks to Rev. Powell and the People's Committee for aiding him.

"I give them all the credit in the world for going to bat for me so that I could get my membership card. It's organizations like the People's Committee that we need and need badly," Romero said.

Powell, Attorney Hogan's office with prompt action in the Romero case, aiding in the settlement to the satisfacion of all involved.

A F of L

Boilermakers' Race Bias Results In Court Action

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

DEC 30 1943

Secretary Says Inability of Negroes To Vote Cost Him The Election

PROVIDENCE, R. I.—(A N P)—Additional fire was placed under the AFL Boilermakers union this week when Americo A. (Joe) Petrini, former union secretary, filed charges in Superior court that racial discrimination practiced in a recent union election had caused him to lose his office by the discriminatory policy of nullifying the votes of 400 colored union members.

Charging that such procedure constituted racial discrimination, Petrini applied for an injunction against the election and petitioned for a court order for a new vote. Meanwhile four colored auxiliary members filed a special bill of complaint against the international and local union and officers who ballot box, sealed in another box, and were not counted upon an order given by William J. Buckley who presided at the election. Only 120 votes represented the margin of victory or defeat for the opposing candidates, union members said.

Another AFL boilermakers' attempt to discriminate against colored union members occurred recently in California when colored workers at the Kaiser shipyards were forced to join "auxiliary" unions but were denied the privileges of full union membership. In that instance, refusal of the colored members to join the jim crow union resulted in an order from the Boilermakers' union that all who refused membership in the auxiliary be immediately discharged. The FEPC is reported to have intervened in favor of the colored workers.

are reported to have acted under orders from William J. Buckley, international vice-president.

A restraining order against destroying or mutilating the ballots or taking them from the state, and against union officials enforcing any discriminatory rules against members was granted by Judge Charles A. Walsh, with preliminary ballots cast in the election were colored, which were marked with a "C," denoting "colored" and were placed in separate envelopes with the names of the voters colored union members charge. The 400 votes were taken out of the injunction hearings scheduled for Jan. 3.

Approximately 400 of the 3,000

DEC 30 1943

The A.F. of L. Remains Immovable

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Despite the brilliant speech of A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, the American Federation of Labor bosses, meeting in convention in Boston, decided against ending jim crowism in their ranks.

Mr. Randolph's arguments were powerful and his logic unassailable, but as always the Big Bosses of the craft unions took their position on the side of injustice.

The philosophy behind this refusal to practice simple democracy in the administration and functioning of these powerful labor trusts is the same as that which dominates the white ruling class everywhere, and tellingly indicates why Labor is so backward in the United States.

It is seriously to be doubted that Dr. Robert Ley, head of the German Labor Front, would permit consideration of "race" or color to interfere with the full utilization of the skill and ingenuity of all workers to win the war for Nazidom; but the A.F. of L. moguls not only permit it but insist upon it.

They regard themselves as an immovable object on this question, but they are going to find that there is also an irresistible force of events which will compel htem to move.

In their ignorance they imagine that after the war they will go back to the "good old days," and for that reason are trying to maintain the status quo of white labor aristocracy.

If the old color line survives this war, it will be a miracle—and a tragedy.

DEC 23 1943

AFL Union Local Elects First Negro to Its Board

PM
New York, N. Y.

Machinists Choice Is a Victory Over the Federation Haters

PM Exclusive

The first Negro ever to be elected to the executive board of Local 703, International Assn. of Machinists, AFL, which represents over 5000 aircraft workers at the Curtiss-Wright Propeller Corp., at Clifton and Caldwell, N. J., will take office the first of the year.

The newly elected board member is Thomas Bell, 27-year-old ex-football player of the University of Minnesota. He is working at the Caldwell plant as a grinder. He is married and the father of two children. His home is at 1413 Prospect Aye., Bronx. He travels to Jersey seven days a week to work on the 4-to-12 shift.

His election is a decided victory over the haters within the union through the power of majority rule.

The American Civil Liberties Union, in a survey, *Democracy in Trade Unions*, published in November, says of the AFL machinists' union:

"... aggressive, expanding organization unable to eliminate a long-entrenched anti-Negro rule. Bell is reserved and soft-spoken and is reluctant to talk about himself. He says he was elected because workers were just tired of particularly in the former regime "who were a group of egotistical men more interested in bettering their own conditions than those of the workers."

Formerly employed by RKO Service Corp. in charge of 20 men, Bell became interested in labor after he went to the propeller plant.

"I discovered for myself then," he said, "that large corporations were exploiting men. This was true where I worked. I was despite strong internal efforts. "A few locals of the Machinists have admitted Negroes under the union's ritual and this union continues to head the list of 29 labor organizations clearly discriminating against Negroes."

Modest

Policy

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

"I don't see any reason to sit back and I am going to try to show them they are wrong.

"Specifically, I am going to try to get 100 per cent union membership from all minority groups in the plant, and if I can do this I think I can show by unity that we can gain equal rights."

On race discrimination, he said: "If I had my way I would introduce classes in Negro history to every junior high school when the Negro would know he has something to be proud of and know that his forefather put plenty into this country—more perhaps than he has so far got out of it."

AFL Union in Court Because of Race Bias

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.
DEC 25 1943

(Special to the Daily Worker)

PROVIDENCE, Dec. 24.—The AFL Boilermakers Union, already under fire for Jim Crow policies in California, is facing a new fight on the discrimination issue in Superior Court here.

Involved in the case here is the outcome of the election in Local 308, whose members, like those on the West Coast, are employed at a Kaiser shipyard.

The votes of approximately 400 Negroes, forced into membership in a Jim Crow "auxiliary" would have elected Americo A. ("Joe") Petrini who sought re-election as secretary, but these were banned from the count, according to the complaint filed in Superior Court.

Petrini, charging that this constituted racial discrimination, applied for an injunction against the election which put a slate headed by Caesar Archambault into office and petitioned for a court order for a new vote.

CALIFORNIA CASE

In California, where AFL Boilermakers sought to force Negroes also to join Jim Crow "auxiliaries" where the union vote is denied, the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices stepped in.

Negroes in West Coast yards had refused to join the auxiliaries on the grounds that though they paid dues they were denied equal rights with other members. The Boilermakers, which operate under a closed shop contract at Kaiser yards, ordered the dismissal of all Negroes refusing auxiliary membership. The FEPC, after hearings, banned the firings and ordered the reinstatement of those dismissed.

PROTESTS TO INTERNATIONAL

Petrini said he had protested the Local 308 election to international headquarters. A special bill of complaint against the international and local union and officers was filed by four Negro auxiliary members.

Judge Charles A. Walsh granted a restraining order against destroying or mutilating the ballots or taking them from the state, and against union officials enforcing any discriminatory rules against members. Hearings on a preliminary injunction will be held Jan. 3.

About 3,200 ballots were cast in the election, approximately 400 of them Negro, but the latter were marked with a "C" meaning "Colored" and were placed in separate envelopes with the names of the voters, the complaint from the Negroes charged.

They said that the marking and segregation of the ballots was by order of William J. Buckley, international vice-president, who presided at the election. Under his order, too, they said, the 400 votes were taken out of the ballot box, sealed in another box, and not counted at all in the election.

There was said to have been a difference of only 120 votes between the opposing candidates.

THE HORIZON

BY P. L. PRATTIS

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa
OCT 30 1943

For 20 Years Randolph Has Tried — and Failed — to Change Heart of A. F. of L.

IN ITS REPORT of the proceedings and activities of the convention of the American Federation of Labor in Boston, PM published a comment of one of the delegates which is characteristic of the leadership of many of the gangster-infested internationals of that aristocratic labor body. This delegate was much put out by the fact that A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, had sternly denounced color discrimination practiced by unions in the federation and had called upon the national body to take an unequivocal stand against such racial bias. For two hours, Mr. Randolph stood before the assemblage, a hodge-podge of intransigent toughs, bullies, gangsters, grafters, aggrandizers and whatnots, and [illegible]ly made a plea for democracy within the organization. Many of the delegates smarted under his withering fire. Then, when it was all over, the delegate referred to by PM, stated:



P. L. Prattis

"Well, he asked for it, and he's gonna get it!"

He meant that Randolph was to be given the bum's rush, that the crusty, hoodlum leaders in the AFL were going to gang up, on the following day, on this lone Negro asking for justice. And they did. They didn't debate the merits of the issue defined by Randolph and burned into their consciences by his acetylene zeal. No, they called him names, they denounced him PERSONALLY. Not a single delegate addressed himself to the point raised by Randolph, the exclusion of Negroes from seven unions and the practice of organizing Negroes into auxiliaries where Negroes are required to pay dues, but have no voice in the union affairs. As noted by Pegler, the men in these unions must pay a poll tax and are deprived of the vote after they pay it.

RANDOLPH'S FAITH

This writer can recall when Randolph took the Pullman porters into the federation. He did not approve of the action at the time. It was not because he liked Randolph less, but because he hated the practices of many AFL unions more. Randolph had the faith to believe that if he got on the inside he could do more to destroy these practices than he could on the outside. That was nearly 20 years ago. He has labored wisely and prodigiously ever since. You may give him credit for forcing the President to issue Executive Order No. 8802, creating the Fair Employment Practices Committee. But in 20 years of pounding away against discrimination in the federation, he has not been able to win one major concession. Year after year, he has made his eloquent plea and year after year, the convention and the offending internationals have ignored him. Only this year, it was worse—they ganged up on him. They called him a traitor to his race.

This writer has often questioned Mr. Randolph's methods. He will continue to do so with nothing of a personal nature involved. But he does not question Mr. Randolph's aims for his race. He has been bold, daring and absolute. He has trimmed no corners. Sometimes, we believe, he has led with his chin, but whenever he has done so, he has been doing the best he knew to knock out the foes of his people. This writer is proud of the animosity he aroused at Boston. Tobin and Frey and Grover and the rest of them can say what they please, but we shall take our stand behind the Randolph who spoke at Boston.

GREEN'S CHARGES

WHAT EFFRONTERY William Green had to charge the Negro press and Negro organizations with sabotaging the AFL! Such a puppet leader should know better than to make such charges. Years ago, Green promised Negro leaders that the AFL high command would do something about discrimination. Now he takes refuge in the fact that the internationals comprising the Federation are autonomous. He says the federation has no governing body to require the internationals to do anything. Of course, the internationals which do not discriminate lack the character to get together and outlaw those which do. They'll never cut off the source of revenue from of fending unions. How can Green expect Negro newspapers and Negro organizations to embrace the discriminatory policies of AFL unions. The Negro press and Negro organizations are firmly labor-minded and union-minded. They have turned their faces toward the Congress of Industrial Organizations because those unions have not ducked the issue of discrimination. They have not solved the problem, but they have the courage and character to try. If Mr. Green wishes to see the attitude of Negroes toward the federation changed, let him contrive to have the executive council issue a forthright, unequivocal, democratic statement against discrimination. That will not destroy the practice, but it will go a long way toward convincing Negro workers that blackness has departed from the hearts which were turned against them.

THE AFL AND ITS ANNUAL FARCE

Defender
Chicago, Ill
OCT 23 1943

The annual farce of the American Federation of Labor convention passing a hollow resolution against racial discrimination and then forgetting it for the next twelve months is here again.

This time the scene is Boston but AFL President William Green seems to have introduced a new note this year with his attempt to reverse the name-calling. In reply to the usual A. Philip Randolph charges that the AFL is prejudiced against Negroes, Green this year came back with the claim that Negroes are prejudiced against the AFL.

However what Mr. Green would like to make a which-came-first-the-chicken-or-the-egg proposition is nothing of the sort. Negroes were being discriminated against in the AFL long before the advent of the CIO, which Green says Negro leaders favor. As a matter of fact it was as a weapon against exclusive AFL craft unionism which barred unskilled Negro workers, that the CIO was started to promote industrial unionism which encompasses all workers.

Certainly Negroes are prejudiced against the AFL and have much reason to remain so as long as the AFL maintains Jim Crow auxiliaries which give Negroes nothing but the right to pay dues. But Mr. Green and his cronies can be assured that Negroes will be glad to flock into the AFL once it decides to make the word democracy a reality in its locals.

The hope of Negro America is in the trade union movement, because the preponderant majority of us labor with our hands for a living. Precisely because we see in labor the chance of genuine freedom and economic emancipation do we fight so hard to open wide the doors of the AFL without regard to race or color. And until the AFL learns that the darker union brother is part of the American labor movement without reservation, we cannot but continue to favor the CIO over the AFL in every instance.

DIVISION OF PERSONAL SOCIAL RESEARCH

PETRILLO SAYS MUSICIANS' UNION BARS DISCRIMINATION; HE INVITES COMPLAINTS

Weekly Review
Birmingham, Ala.

NEW YORK, N. Y. — The policy of the American Federation of Musicians "always has been and will continue to be to prohibit discrimination of any kind in any form' 'according to James C. Petrillo, president.

The boss of the powerful A. F. of L. union made this statement in a letter to the NAACP but did not answer directly or clearly questions asked by the NAACP about the "colored" and subsidiary unions within the A. F. of M. President Petrillo was also vague on the NAACP charge that 631 A.F. of M. locals are limited to white musicians only.

"So far as I know," Petrillo wrote, "the present situation is entirely satisfactory to the colored members. If there is any dissatisfaction on that subject on the part of any member or any local, they know that any complaint in their part will be received and given attention by the International Executive Board."

The NAACP letter had pointed out that the A. F. of M. has 672 locals within the United States of which 32 are completely "colored." Eight locals in the United States have "subsidiary" locals to which Negroes are admitted.

The NAACP letter asserted that only two locals in the entire United States, Local 802, New York City, and Local 5, Detroit, Michigan, admit Negroes to full mmebership. The NAACP also pointed out that where colored and white locals are in the same territory both white and colored musicians suffer because employers play one against the other and thus lower the pay scales for both. The NAACP also protested a section of the by-laws of the A. F. of M. which it asserted, discriminated against Porto Ricans.

Policy And Practice

James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians and popularly known as czar of the music world, has informed the NAACP that it has never been and never will be the policy of the A. F. of M. to discriminate against Negroes. Courier

This is extremely comforting news, indeed, and we hope that it is true. Pittsburgh, Pa.

We have heard so much to the contrary from Negro musicians, members of the A. F. of M., and we think it would be interesting to have their present views on the matter.

The discrepancy between what Mr. Petrillo says and what some Negro musicians say may arise from the fact that Mr. Petrillo is talking about policy as set down in official pronouncements, while the Negro musicians are talking about practice as encountered from day to day.

It would be helpful to have these matters cleared up.
Are Negro musicians discriminated against?
If so, how and where is it done?

Petrillo Says Musicians' Union Bars Race Discrimination; Invites Making Complaints

Age
New York, N. Y.

The policy of the American Federation of Musicians "always has been and will always continue to be to prohibit discrimination of any kind in any form," according to James C. Petrillo, president.

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The Petrillo reply stated that the "colored" locals were so chartered because they "were especially asked for in that wa[illegible]

Petrillo also asserted that there were more than two locals in the United States admitting Negroes to full membership, but he also said that this was his impression "without having made any particular inquiry on the subject."

35i-1943

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Car Cleaners To Join Brotherhood

MAR 27 1943

NEW YORK CITY.—A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (AFL), announced this week that plans are under way to organize the pullman car cleaners, thereby giving them the advantages of organizational leadership. Randolph said:

"This organization campaign is the result of constant requests from the car cleaners from coast to coast for the Brotherhood to get them together inasmuch as wherever there are car cleaners who are in close contact with the porters, they see the great improvement in the standards of wages and working conditions the porters have won.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Randolph Dickers For CPR Rights

NEW YORK. — A. Philip Randolph, president of the International Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, has just returned to the city from a visit to Ottawa, Canada, where he held extended conversations with officials of the Canadian Pacific Railway over the right to serve as collective bargaining agent for the employes of the company.

While Randolph was non-committal as to the progress of the conference, it disclosed that 95 per cent of the Canadian Pacific porters have repudiated a company union and have joined his organization.

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

Bortherhood Of Sleeping Car Porters Have Twenty Million Dollars Worth Of Contracts

MAY 5 1943

Commenting on the scope if the organization and wage agreements interest of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, A. Phillip Randolph, international president pointed last week that the international affiliated with the American Federation of Labor controls, owns and polices wage contracts that are worth more than twenty million dollars annually.

MAY 5 1943

These contracts are held with the Pullman Company, Burlington Lines, Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad, the Soo Line, the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, the Alton Railroad, the Illinois Central, the International Great Northern, the Missouri Pacific, the Southern Pacific, and a number of others.

"Not the rcossing of a "t", the dotting of an "i" or the shifting of a comma can be made in any of these contracts except in conference between the railway carriers and the Brotherhood," stated Mr. Randolph.

MAY 5 1943

"The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters produces more new money for the maintenance of Negro institutions such as the church, fraternal logedes, schools, homes, papers, etc., than any other single Negro agency today. This achievement, he concluded, is the result of 17 years of the hardest struggle, sacrifice and suffering of the leaders and members of this great movement and its pioneering has been the inspiration and incentive for the organization of Negro workers into practically all other trade unions that no

MAY 5 1943

R.R. Case Before FEPC Cost Randolph $20,000

Baltimore, Maryland
Afro-American

Pullman Porters Financed Campaign That Brings Hearing After Two Years

SEP

WASHINGTON.

More than $20,000 has been spent by A. Philip Randolph and his Provisional Committee of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (BSCP) in organizing firemen and laying the foundation for the FEPC railroad hearings last week.

In an exclusive interview with the AFRO, B. F. McLaurin, organizer of the BSCP revealed that $4,000 of this alone was used last week to pay Pullman fare for seventeen of the witnesses for whom the Government did not have budget funds to bring to the Capital, board, lodging, publicity and incidentals.

Two-Day Conference Held

"We laid plans for the hearings and aroused interest in them through a mass meeting at Vermont Avenue Baptist Church, and a two-day conference earlier this week," Mr. McLaurin stated.

He revealed that the BSCP had interviews with colored firemen in the South two years ago which revealed that they would soon become extinct if nothing was done in their case and that Mr. Randolph called a national conference of firemen in Washington.

The Provisional Committee of the BSCP was set up when more than seventy-five firemen appeared and a nationwide campaign was carried out in the interest of creating a union.

After an extensive six-month drive, the organization of a major-

Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters

Files Case For Porters In Canada

SEP 18 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

OTTAWA, Can., Sept. 16—A delegation headed by A. Philip Randolph filed the case of the Canadian Pacific porters here last week with Humphrey Mitchell, minister of Labor for the Dominion of Canada.

Filing of the case involves the application for the establishment of a board of conciliation and investigation by the Minister of Labor to settle a dispute concerning the status of the sleeping car porters, parlor car and composite car orters on the Canadian Pacific Railroad.

SEP 18 1943

The case filed by the delegation concerns representation, union recognition and collective bargaining.

Bennie Smith, second international vice president; V. L. Petgrave, president of the Toronto division; Arthur Blanchette, secretary-treasurer of the Montreal division and Mr. Randolph made up the delegation.

ity of the firemen was completed.

FEPC Called Godsend

"When the FEPC was created, we considered this committee a 'godsend' since most of the railroad workers' ills had never been presented to the American public," Mr. McLaurin said. "Complaints were filed and preparation was finally made for the hearings.

Harold Stevens, a New York attorney and I secured the facts."

Mr. McLaurin revealed that in addition to paying for room, lodging, transportation, social entertainment and publicity for many of the fifty-two locomotive firemen present for the hearings, an additional eight to ten thousand dollars will be spent to bring the testimony of the colored employees before white citizens throughout the nation by means of paid advertisements in well-known newspapers.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

AFL Parley Thrown Challenge By Negro Delegate At Boston

Debate About Democracy Of Some Unions Plunges Confab Into Controversy

BY JOSEPH A. LOFTUS

BOSTON—(AP)—A Negro delegate's challenge of the democracy of some trade unions plunged the AFL convention into controversy Tuesday over the issue of racial discrimination.

A. Philip Randolph, of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, opened the debate Monday with a statement that the race problem "is the No. 1 problem of America today" and a plea for the abolition of auxiliary unions based on race. He singled out for particular criticism the boilermakers and the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks. Adjournment cut off immediate replies which some delegates were prepared to make.

* * *

THE PROBLEM, SAID RANDOLPH, "must be solved for the sake of the American Federation itself to square its practices with its professions." Unless this is done, he added, the AFL "will forfeit the confidence of the enlightened and liberal people of the world."

The Negro delegate cited the AFL's demands for a voice in writing the world peace, and asked, "What about the Negro? Don't you think the Negroes are concerned about democracy, too?"

Randolph said he appreciated the "sincerity" of the officers of the resolutions committee but had to disagree about the scope of their report. Randolph had urged criticism and condemnation of specific practices by specific unions.

* * *

THE COMMITTEE REPORT DEPLORED discrimination but said "It is obvious that the goal we aim for, the best interests of the American people as a whole, and our democratic way of life, cannot be secured by one stroke or through the method of decrees, mechanical orders or threats handed down from on high. What is required is the intelligent, systematic, educational efforts to speed the day when there will no longer exist in the industrial field any prejudices or handicaps because of racial origin or color."

The committee recommended that all the educational fac- of the trade union moveme- used in furthering these obje-

The Voice Selects As the Most Important Question of the Week:

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Edited by LLEWELLYN RANSOM

(Question asked at Grants 125 St. Department Store)

Do you think A. Philip Randolph, leader of Sleeping Car Porters, should leave the AFL and join forces with the CIO?

OCT 23 1943

PRO: *Charlotte Charity, Journalist, NYC.* People's Voice New York, N. Y.

YES. I DEFINITELY believe Randolph should walk out of the AFL and seek membership in the CIO for his union. This should be one of the most spectacular protests against inexcusable discrimination in the labor movement. Unquestionably, this would have as much effect on the progress of the Negro worker in labor circles as John Lewis' break with the AFL had upon the progress of the unskilled and rank and file white workers a few years ago. Such a move at this time would really put reactionary leadership on the spot. This is the time of much talk about the century of the common man and a peoples' world. The Negro, who has long been considered an underdog in labor as well as social circles, and who for a long time has been the victim of false propaganda that labor meant him no good. He was influenced to the extent that he acted as a strikebreaker. Nothing more influenced the Negro in changing his attitude toward the labor movement than the advent of the CIO. There is still a tremendous lag on the part of our people in moving toward labor. This lag is primarily due to the attitude of reactionary AFL leaders and their discriminatory policies. Randolph's presence in the AFL acts as an endorsement of this reactionary body and his withdrawal would serve to expose its Jim Crowism.



CON: *Harrel Charles Green, Bus. Dir., Local 82H, NYC.*

NO. I DO NOT believe that Randolph should leave the AFL and seek entrance into the CIO and I certainly don't believe he will. He is our foremost labor leader who is able to attend these conventions and to speak out forceably [illegible] the black worker. He has done this within the ranks of the AFL for years. If Randolph withdraws now there will be no Negro representative to carry on this courageous fight. It is better to stay within the ranks of his federation and continue his fight against its reactionary policies rather than withdraw and give up the fight. I feel that his long and continued battle has definitely aided his people in the whole labor movement. His struggle has also aided the Negro in securing jobs which he has been traditionally denied. Randolph has stood as a symbol of the Negro in labor. He has aided the Negro people toward a long needed and most necessary state of labor consciousness. What is needed today is greater support of Randolph by the rank and file Negro worker within the labor movement and the public generally. This would be better strategy than resorting to a defeatists term of mind by calling upon him to retreat and give up the good fight by hiding behind the petticoats of the CIO. Some of the greatest battles of life have been nearest victory at an apparently dark and hopeless stage. If Randolph leaves the AFL, it will be a loss rather than a gain, to the black worker.



The People:



Ethel Lindsay, sales girl, NYC: Yes. Because he is such an important leader to the Negro people. The CIO has shown its readiness to accept Negroes on the same basis as white workers. This organization should be strengthened and Randolph would lend it aid by bringing in his following.

OCT 23 1943



Etrusia Levister, sales clerk, NYC: Yes. The labor movement is a way out for our people. White workers have much in common with most of us. If Randolph lent his force to the CIO [illegible] all races, it would help both the Negro as well as labor.

OCT 23 1943

* * *



Emanuel Middleton, musician, NYC: No. Running away is a sign of weakness. I am an AFL member and I want to see discrimination broken down in my union. Randolph is the man to do that.

OCT 23 1943



William Best, accountant, NYC: No. They should stay. The job of stopping discrimination in the AFL has to be done sooner or later and there is no leader better fit to do that job than Randolph. To leave now is to have a job undone.

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J. DeWitt Spencer, Katherine Dunham Revue, NYC: Yes. The loss of such a strong man and a strong union, certainly would affect the jim-crow policies of the AFL and at the same time help to increase the progressive force of CIO.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82



SEP 11 1943

A. PHILIP RANDOLPH, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters Provisional Committee to Organize the Colored Locomotive Firemen, with a small portion of the men who are being threatened with the loss of their jobs on American railroad's. The white American Railroad Brotherhoods have sworn to wipe Negro firemen entirely from the left side of an Cadillac's cab. Eleven of the firemen have been murdered while at work. The firemen's case against the white R. R. Brotherhoods is being brought before the FEPC in Washington, D. C. on Sept. 15-20 h.

VANISHING AMERICANS

Introducing A. Philip Randolph who refuses to be appeased in his battle for Negroes' rights



The founder of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters has headed that organization of 10,000 since 1925. Behind him in this picture is a model Pullman car named for him, with comic-strip portraits in its windows.

By Arnold Beichman

New York, N. Y.

OFTEN when A. (for *Asa*) Philip Randolph, 54-year-old president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, AFL, offers a tip to his Pullman porter during his travels, the tip is refused with the statement. "Brother Randolph, I ought to be tipping you."

But there are an awful lot of people in this country who wouldn't tip Randolph a plugged nickel. To them, Randolph is a professional Negro, an agitator, a Red-baiter, a chauvinist or any of many other names. He has been criticized by liberals who feel that on occasion he has displayed an unfortunate "Negro nationalism."

Amidst all this, broad-shouldered, six-foot Randolph runs his union of 10,000 members and keeps asking, "If not now, when then?"

The interpretation of that is that if Negroes don't fight now, during this war, for their rights, they'll have a tough time getting them in the post-war era.

Impelled by that belief, Randolph rises year after year, at the annual conventions of the American Federation of Labor, with which his union has been affiliated since 1929, and asks the delegates to end Jim Crowism within the AFL.

This year, he called for the abolition of Jim Crow auxiliary locals within the AFL, into which Negro workers in hitherto 100 per cent white unions are shunted. They pay dues but have little to say in union affairs.

PM

His convention speech in Boston, cradle of the Abolitionist movement, a few weeks ago, angered AFL dignitaries. They berated him for attacking the Resolutions Committee report, which reiterated the AFL's often-expressed opposition to discrimination and its belief in the need for educating workers on the Negro question, but which failed to mention auxiliary unions.

The heat was put on Randolph to be "reasonable" and lay off the speech-making this year, but he went ahead.

To have done anything else, so far as Randolph was concerned, would have been appeasement, and that he regards as a major shortcoming of some Negro leaders.

"By appeasement," he says in his deep voice, "I mean, accepting promotion among some Negroes in the Army to high officerships but winking at segregation. Appeasement means to accept Jim Crow housing, because some housing, presumably, is better than none. Appeasement means winking at Jim Crow policy in Federal departments because a few Negroes get important Federal jobs."

Randolph has a more homely example:

"Sometimes, I'm sitting in a crowded diner on a train," he explains. "I'm at a table by myself. A white couple will come in and mine will be the only table left. If the steward leads them to my table, without hesitancy, they'll sit down. But let him show the slightest distaste as he points in my direction, and the white people will prefer to stand and wait. I've seen that happen time and again."

That, says Randolph, going back into good American history, is "taxation without representation."

* * *

This refusal to compromise or to appease—right or wrong—goes back far in Randolph's history.

He was born in Crescent City, Fla., the son of a Methodist minister who worked as a tailor. His father's people had been Southern slaves. At 15 Randolph migrated to New York City, where he worked as a hallboy for a while, then went to Jacksonville, Fla., where he attended a Methodist high school.

After graduation, he returned to New York where he attended City College for three college years. Randolph quit to edit the *Hotel Messenger*, spokesman for the National Headwaiters Association, an organization of Negro head waiters. After a few months as editor, Randolph discovered that some of the head waiters had a little racket—pulting the side waiters (those who do the serving) by making them buy uniforms at inflatant prices.

Randolph exposed the racket in the magazine and was fired. With that he established another magazine, the *Messenger*, addressed to side waiters.

The publication espoused democratic Socialism, which Randolph had adopted at college. He had read Marx's *Das Kapital*, the works of Bernard Shaw, Lester F. Ward (the sociologist), Franz Boas.

He organized a current issues forum in Harlem and, in 1917, joined the Socialist Party. (He resigned from the party in 1940 because "I felt that the war of the United Nations against the Axis ought to be supported.") He now works with the right wing of the American Labor Party.

He was opposed to World War I. As a Socialist, he fought the draft in those days, touring the country speaking against the war. In Cleveland, in 1917, he was jailed for four days, just after Eugene V. Debs, the Socialist leader, was sent to prison.

Leading Harlem politicians, irritated by

his views, badgered his draft board to induct him. Randolph got his induction notice on Armistice Day.

Along about 1925, he began organizing the Brotherhood at the invitation of some Pullman porters who, having read the *Messenger*, came to him. He had six porters at the start.

He and his organizers were hounded by the Pinkertons and the Railway Audit Association, two private detective agencies. He was run out of railroad yards and recalls that he had to contend with Negro stool-pigeons.

It was 1935 before the porters were able to vote for a Brotherhood in a National Labor Relations Board election; two years later, the union got its first contract with the Pullman Co. Wages went up from $77.50 a month to $89.50 minimum. Today the minimum is $113.50, straight cash and no deductions.

Within a few weeks, Randolph will know the results of the Brotherhood's organizing drive among railroad porters in Canada, where a vote is now under way. And next month Randolph is to meet with a delegation of Mexican railroad porters who want to join the union, which Randolph has headed from its inception.

During his years as a Socialist Party member Randolph was under constant pressure to turn a friendly eye to the Communists. Rich left-wingers offered him free trips to Russia, which he rejected. Says Randolph:

"At that time, I didn't think the Communist Party had the proper technique for developing a sound revolutionary movement. Today, I think even more strongly that it is out of step with sound social policy necessary to develop a strong labor movement because the Communist Party line always is formulated with a view to Russian foreign policy."

He took quite a shellacking from the Communists because he was quick to join the Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies and consequently, was, to them, an "imperialist war-monger."

But he took an even worse shellacking when he announced early in 1941 that he was calling on American Negroes to march on Washington to protest discrimination in war industries.

Again the heat was put on for Randolph to compromise, to lay off. Mayor La Guardia, among others, asked him to do so. But Randolph had a price: when FDR called him to the White House, the Negro leader asked for an Executive Order with teeth in it to eliminate discrimination in war plants.

Randolph called off his proposed march, but out of his protest came Executive Order 8802 and the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee, which despite its imperfections and interference from War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt, has done much to give the Negro workers a better break. For this victory, Randolph received the coveted Spingarn medal (awarded annually to an American Negro for high achievement) in 1942.

I asked Randolph what his first step would be, if he had the power to help his people. Without hesitation, he replied:

"I'd issue a national proclamation against segregation and discrimination in the armed forces against the Negro serviceman. The Negro soldier today is the major symbol in the life and thinking of the Negro people.

"This insult to the Negro soldier is a stab in the back of the Negro people. A proclamation ending such segregation would go a long way in regaining the lost confidence of colored people throughout the world in the avowed war aims expressed by the United Nations."

Randolph's program for the modern emancipation of the Negro includes:

- Organizing the Negro into the trade union movement.
- Joining political organizations but on crucial issues disregarding party labels.
- Acquiring scientific and technical education. Randolph criticizes Negro colleges for emphasizing cultural studies.
- Developing a major demonstration, in wartime, for Negro rights, "which in the long run are everybody's rights." That's why Randolph is planning a national fight for Sgt. Alton Levy, convicted by Army court-martial about treatment of Negro soldiers.

"The Negro must be hitched up in the fight against anti-Semitism," he asserts, because he must understand that anti-Semitism and anti-Negroism stem from the same source."

Randolph's home is in Harlem in the Paul Laurence Dunbar Apartments, where he lives with his wife. They have no children.

There is little rancor in Randolph. He talks deliberately, almost impassively. But he never forgets his job or that he is a Negro—even when he's at a baseball game, which is quite often. He likes the Yankees, the Dodgers, above all the Cardinals.

"The Cards are a good ball team," he says with a broad smile, "but I don't like the fact that Negroes are barred from the St. Louis grandstand."

California

HAS SHIPYARD STAY OUSTER OF NEGROES

NOV 25 1943

WSA Halts California Discharge of 430 Ordered by Boilermakers Union

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 24—Rear Admiral Emory S. Land, War Shipping Administrator, today requested the Marinship Corporation of Sausalito to delay action on the contemplated dismissal of 430 Negro workers, a course which the company had felt bound to take under an agreement with the boilermakers union of the American Federation of Labor.

Representatives of the shipyard, the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, other Federal agencies and a Negroes' committee of San Francisco tonight were seeking a formula on which a satisfactory adjustment of the situation could be based.

Marinship executives stated that the 430 Negroes, who had been working under a "free permit" issued by Local 6 of the union, were notified by the union yesterday that they were not in good standing. Some of the 430, a statement said, had applied for membership in a Negro auxiliary; others protested a requirement that they join the auxiliary, rather than the regular union, and still others failed to apply for membership in either the union or its auxiliary.

The company took the stand that under terms of the master agreement between Pacific Coast shipyards and AFL metal trades unions, it had no alternative except to discharge the men.

Harry L. Kingman, regional director of the President's committee, disclosed that Malcolm Ross, its national chairman, had conferred with Admiral Land in Washington about the developments. Late in the day Robert Diggs, administratvie manager of the shipyard, confirmed a report that the War Shipping Administrator had interceded.

"It was decided that the whole thing had better be further discussed, and we are going to call the unions now and tell them that," Mr. Diggs said. "Further discussion can't hurt anybody."

Chicago Typos OK Negro Members

SEP 8 1943

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

(Special to the Daily Worker)

CHICAGO, Sept. 7.—Fighters of Jim Crowism hailed another great victory today as the Chicago Typographical Union, No. 16, voted overwhelmingly to accept the membership of 19 Negro printers of the **Chicago Defender** and to continue to organize shops where Negroes are employed.

In voting to accept the Negro printers, the Chicago union, the second largest typographical local in the nation, dealt a smashing blow to a small group of reactionaries led by a **Chicago Tribune** printer, George J. Chiles, who sought to becloud the issue by introducing technicalities. The vote was 138 to 10.

Don Pearson, a Negro organizer who in a few weeks organized the **Chicago Defender** printshop, led the attack against Chiles and drew cheers from the membership when he declared "We are fighting a war against slavery" and called for "a union of all workingmen, black and white."

Speaking of the 19 Negroes who sought membership Pearson declared:

"The issue here today is not of competence or any other technicality. The issue here is discrimination, racial prejudice and unfairness.

"We printers in the union can not be fighting a war for freedom on the basis of the Four Freedoms and the Atlantic Charter and at the same time refuse the desire of these men to become union members."

Pearson was cheered when he introduced the issue of the Ku Klux Klan, [illegible] declared:

"Today I am your brother because years ago you didn't want to be bulldozed by the Klan into refusing membership.

Ford Local Condemns Factionalism in UAW

Daily Worker
(Special to the Daily Worker)

DETROIT, Sept. 3.—In a resolution setting forth its convention policy, Ford Local 600, which has a membership of 80,000, committed its 154 delegates to the Buffalo convention of the United Automobile Workers to a policy of unity in the union and condemnation of the factionalism now raging in its ranks.

The resolution adopted by the Ford general council, published in the UAW's official journal, notes that only a "few hundred members" actually participate in factional bickering" while the members at large want the union's strength preserved and united.

"Specifically, we condemn all forms of Negro-baiting, Jew-baiting, Catholic-baiting, red-baiting and other kinds of rumor mongering calculated to set workers against workers," declares the resolution.

The Ford Local's resolution comes as two caucuses—the Reuther-Leonard and Addes-Frankensteen groups—are straining all effort to gain factional control of the convention.

The resolution in full follows:

WHEREAS Ford Local 600, UAW-CIO, bears an enormous responsibility before the workers of the world to show leadership to the labor movement; and

WHEREAS this leadership cannot be realized unless this local union is solid as a rock in the face of the attacks of all the anti-labor, anti-democratic forces now under way from Adolf Hitler to Westbrook Pegler and all the reactionaries in between; and

WHEREAS the solidarity of this local union is threatened by the persistent factional fighting of many different groups and individuals who by fighting among themselves only weaken the union in the face of the main enemy; and

WHEREAS but a few hundred members of this local are active participants in the factional bickering while many thousands of Ford workers want only that their union be strong and determined in facing the foe; and

WHEREAS the development of the kind of democratic discipline which prevailed while this local was being organized, when Ford workers stood like a rock in the face of its opposition demands that there be carried out a consolidation of this union, and of each of its building units, behind the elected leadership of the local and of each building unit; and

WHEREAS such a program of consolidation demands a foundation of policy to which the local, the buildings and all members must adhere; then

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Board of Local 600 hereby establishes the following four-point program as the official policy of this board; that the Executive Board recommends to the general council the same four-point program for adoption as the official stand of this local union, and that the Executive Board directs each of its members who is a building chairman to propose the same four points of policy for adoption as the policy of each unit at the next meeting of each unit.

(1) We stand wholeheartedly behind the war program of the national administration and the United Nations. We will fight all efforts to make this war something less than a democratic people's war. We will support all programs aimed at bringing the speediest possible unconditional surrender of the enemy.

(2) We stand wholeheartedly behind the program and policies of the CIO and the UAW-CIO as laid down in the Boston and Chicago conventions, and as clarified from time to time since then by the executive boards of both because they are the democratic expression of what our national organizations stand for.

(3) We stand wholeheartedly behind the policy of unity of all workers, which is the keystone of the CIO, and we condemn all effort by anybody, within or without the union, to drive a wedge into our ranks between white workers and Negro workers, between Jews and Gentiles, between Catholics and Protestants. Specifically, we condemn all forms of Negro-baiting, Jew-baiting, Catholic-baiting, red-baiting or other kinds of rumor mongering calculated to set workers against workers.

(4) Finally, we stand wholeheartedly behind the proposition that we must fight around the clock, 365 days a year, with an aggressive program of political action aimed at making the inner front strong by the election—in city councils, state legislatures and the national Congress—of the CIO's legislative program, not only because it is a program for the nation—farmers, housewives, businessmen and the members of the fighting forces—and because it is the foundation upon which we can build a post-war world of permanent peace.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Blast Race Bias On Radio Program

AUG 8 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—Racial discrimination, an evil the CIO has been fighting for a long time, was the subject of the CIO's "Labor for Victory" national radio program last Sunday. Four CIO leaders, two of them Negro and two white, took part in the discussion, which stressed the importance of taking all possible steps to omeet a serious problem affecting our war effort.

James Carey, national CIO secretary-treasurer and chairman of the CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination, in starting the discussion,, declared that the war "requires the full use of all our strength in material, manpower and morale." In a period of war tension, he said, there is constant danger of emotional disturbances causing explosions that may harm war production.

Willard Townsend, president of the United Transport Service Employees, CIO, listed some of the main points in the treatment of Negroes in armed service and in civilian communities which created tension.

"These arise from local transportation facilities to and from camps, violence against Negro soldiers in civilian communities and the reflection in those communities of the racial attitudes of those in authority in the armed services," he said.

Others who participated in the roundtable were John P. Brophy, CIO director of the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee and C. A. I. Weaver, UTSEA-CIO Washington Representative and Director of the CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination.

Parley Pushed Fight To End Discrimination

The Worker
New York, N. Y

By Doxey Wilkerson

The progressive character of the present CIO convention is nowhere better reflected than in its clear and uncompromising stand on the issue of racial, religious and national discrimination. Probably no labor convention in the history of the nation has so strikingly pushed forward the struggle for full economic, political and social rights for minority peoples.

Most notable among the convention actions of forthright statements of policy and program on the Oriental Exclusion Act, anti-Semitism, the poll tax, and racial and national discrimination; the dramatic election of an outstanding Negro labor leader to the Executive Board, and especially the raising of each of these issues to a high political level by thorough and spirited discussion from the floor.

ANTI-SEMITISM

The democratic tone and perspectives for the convention were set on the very first day, through presentation and unanimous adoption of the report of President Philip Murray. In no uncertain terms, this report, in which the officers concurred, called for the complete destruction of all forms of racial and religious discrimination. Then, beginning on the second day, definitive action was taken on specific issues.

Declaring that "anti-Semitism today is treason to America. . . a Hitler weapon aimed to disrupt the war effort," the convention adopted a comprehensive resolution on "Rescue of the Jewish People." The resolution endorsed the program of the American Jewish Conference, urged full immigration opportunities for refugees from Nazi-occupied countries, condemned the recent Boston and New York attacks upon the Jewish people, called upon Congress to bar anti-Semitic propaganda from the mails, demanded prosecution of known seditionists, and declared that "the national CIO extends its full support to the Jewish people in their battle for equal rights."

CHINESE IMMIGRATION

Also on the second day, the convention called upon Congress "to enact legislation repealing the Oriental Exclusion Act as it affects our allies and eliminating all racial for the strengthening of the FEPC; urged all affiliates to support the CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination; reaffirmed determination to "eliminate completely the economic factors which are fundamental causes of discrimination"; and urged "President Roosevelt, as Commander-in-chief of the armed forces, to effect by executive decree an end to the racist Army policy of Jim Crow segregation of Negro troops and insure equal treatment of all Americans regardless of race or color, as the laws of the land properly guarantee."

Finally, as a fitting and dramatic expression of sincerity, the convention on the closing day permitted the withdrawal of one of its most famous white executive board members and elected an outstanding Negro labor leader to take his place.

Frederick Myers, internationally renowned vice-president of the National Maritime Union, stepped down from the CIO executive board and nominated as his successor a man whom he characterized as "a great Negro, a great fighter for CIO, the Secretary of the National Maritime Union, Ferdinand C. Smith."

Ferdinand Smith, who holds many important positions in the trade union and civic life of the nation, is the first Negro CIO executive board member representing an international union whose membership is predominantly white. He now joins Willard Townsend, president of the United Transport Service Employes Union, who was re-elected for a second term on the CIO executive board.

President Philip Murray's report on the first day of the convention characterized the CIO as "the most democratic labor body in the world." The record of convention actions during the next four days affords substantial proof of this claim.

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cussions of the convention centered around the passage of anti-poll tax legislation now pending in the U. S. Senate. In what was probably his most impassioned speech of the convention, CIO President Phillip Murray declared: "It is a sin in the eyes of heaven that in this day and age when America is engaged in this kind of a war, that you and I should have to look upon the population of eight states deprived of (the right to vote) the very things we are fighting and dying for."

The resolution adopted urged the Senate Judiciary Committee "to report out the anti-poll tax bill with a favorable recommendation," and called upon the Senate 'not to permit or tolerate any unscrupulous filibuster" by the "clique of poll tax Senators intent upon blocking passage of the bill."

DISCRIMINATION

In a discussion which extended one and one-half hours after the fourth-day session was scheduled to end, the convention adopted an unusually strong and comprehensive resolution against racial discrimination. A succession of ten or twelve white and Negro delegates from both North and South, took the floor to insist that "the complete destruction of racial discrimination" become an integral part of the day-to-day struggles of the CIO.

Among other things the resolution demanded "the rights of racial and religious minorities to participate fully in our social and political life"; commended and called

Negro-White Unity Glows in Bessemer

By Doxey Wilkerson
(Daily Worker Staff Correspondent)

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 5.—Louis Tarrant, Negro delegate from Bessemer, Alabama, who led the CIO Convention in today's discussion of the anti-poll tax resolution, is symbolic of the new relations which the progressive industrial union movement is forging among the white and Negro workers of the Deep South.

Delegate Tarrant is the sole convention representative of 800 white and Negro members of Raymond Red-Ore Local 121, Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers of America. Serving as president of his local from 1937 to 1940, and since then as vice-president, Mr. Tarrant is enthusiastic about the "very splendid understanding and cooperation between the white and Negro workers" in his union. As he tells the story of his local at Bessemer:

"A few years ago, as in most places on 'The Mountain,' Negro workers stuck only in the lowest-paying jobs. There was no need to say anything about it; that's just the way things were.

"A year and a half ago, after the war broke out, I made an appeal in our union for Negro-white unity on the job. Our executive board met and drew up a plan. We should share equally in all jobs, low and high, that neither should fight against the other, that there should be full understanding and cooperation between the two groups of workers.

"Now, any number of Negroes have been elevated to higher jobs—foremen, motormen, electricians, and others. There are several Negroes on our executive board, and our local is the only one on 'The Mountain' with a Negro secretary-treasurer."

Louis Tarrant is full of praise for Reid Robinson, national president of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, whom he characterizes as a "splendid leader whom we support 100 per cent, a much better leader than that of any other organization I know." He attributes to the influence of Reid Robinson the appointment of several Negro organizers in the Bessemer region on the national payroll, as well as much of the wholesome Negro-white cooperation on "The Mountain."

Not only on the job, but also in the larger community, the white and Negro members of Louis Tarrant's local have been active in the struggle for Negro freedom. They are working hard for repeal of the poll tax. They are consistent supporters of the Southern Negro Youth Congress. They have sent delegates to two convention of the Southern Conference on Human Welfare.

When this gray-haired, straightforward and alert Negro mine worker from "The Mountain" in Bessemer, Alabama, reports that "our white and Negro members always meet together and work together splendidly," he seems to realize that he is proclaiming a new era in race relations which the organized labor movement is destined to bring to the South.

Fascist Propaganda, Licked by CIO in Baltimore

You'll Go Without Coal This Winter Thanks To The C.I.O.

Do You Want To Go Without A Job Too!

WE DON'T HAVE NEGROES AT MIDDLE RIVER YET!

VOTE NO UNION AND KEEP IT THAT WAY

KNOW YOUR STEWARDS
Dragon — Broccolino
Unterman — Deardorff
Greenberg — Tarquinio
Ulano — Studzinski
Crumpley — Kaplan
Germans, Jews, Italians, Russians
Parents Born In Europe
KNOW YOUR LEADERS

IF A COLORED WORKERS VOTE IS WORTH $25.00 WHAT IS YOURS WORTH?
SEE YOUR STEWART

Daily Worker New York, N. Y.

Goebbels-inspired material, issued at the huge Glenn L. Martin aircraft plant during a recent National Labor Relations Board run-off election. Note the anti-Semitic, anti-Negro character of the cards. CIO faced a campaign which may have had to do with issuance of the card is not established.

Daily Worker New York, N. Y.

Won NLRB Poll Despite Barrage Of Pro-Nazi Lies

By Dr. Doxey H. Wilkerson
(Special to the Daily Worker)

BALTIMORE, Sept. 27. — When the CIO won out at the huge Glenn L. Martin aircraft plant here, it wasn't only a union victory—it was a triumph over fascism.

That's the opinion of leading laborites in this area based on a review of the ammunition used to defeat organized labor in the campaign which preceded the election. Several days before the election, tens of thousands of cards bearing fascist slogans flooded the plant. One Nick Dragon, CIO director of the drive, asked: "How Much Income and Victory Tax Does Nick Dragon Pay on His $75,000 a Year Salary?"

In addition to the wholesale distribution of such [illegible] and fascist-like [illegible] there were said to be countless Company violations of the Wagner Act. Workers were supplied with "No Union" sweaters. Supervisors took a direct part in campaigning against the CIO, and many hundreds of them tried to vote.

Several days before the election, it was over two dozen of the biggest company stooges in the plant were paying CIO dues.

Then, the tide began to turn. CIO votes pulled up, tied and then passed the "No Union" votes. Pandemonium broke loose. The 200 shop stewards presently staged a celebration that the Martin plant will never forget. They had not only won collective bargaining rights in one of the greatest aircraft plants in the country; as one of them phrased it, they also "beat fascism."

cussions of the convention centered around the passage of anti-poll tax legislation now pending in the U. S. Senate. In what was probably his most impassioned speech of the convention, CIO President Phillip Murray declared: "It is a sin in the eyes of heaven that in this day and age when America is engaged in this kind of a war, that you and I should have to look upon the population of eight states deprived of (the right to vote) the very things we are fighting and dying for."

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Daily Worker New York, N. Y.

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'Indicative Of Changes Taking Place'--Townsend

Far-Reaching Decision Breaks Back Of Discrimination In Railroad Labor

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
AUG 14 1943

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12—One of the most significant and history-making decisions affecting the whole, well-planned structure of collusion between railroad management and railroad brotherhoods, in denying Negroes their rights under the Railway Labor Act, was made last week by the United States Circuit Court of Appeals in a case involving the United Transport Service Employees of America, CIO, the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, AFL, and the National Mediation board.

The U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the recent decision of the U. S. District court that set aside a ruling of the National Mediation board, which had extended to the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks the authority to bargain collectively for a group of railroad porters, despite the fact that they were barred from membership in the Clerks' union because of race, and had overwhelmingly selected the UTSEA-CIO as their own bargaining representative. The Circuit court upheld the decision setting aside the board's "untenable and arbitrary" ruling and ordered this Federal agency to proceed to certify the UTSEA-CIO as the collective bargaining agency for these employees.

FORTHRIGHT STATEMENT

The decision was rendered by Chief Justice C. J. Groner of the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals, who minced no words in supporting the contention of UTSEA-CIO's attorneys, George E. C. Hayes, Judge James A. Cobb and Perry Howard.

Chief Justice Groner stated, "The purpose of the act (Railway Labor Act), as is apparent on its face . . . is to insure freedom of choice in the selection of representatives . . . Nothing in the act nor in its construction by the courts can be found to justify such coercive action as to force upon any class of employees representation through an agency with whom it has no affiliation nor right of association. It is, therefore, of no consequence that the porters were at one time dependent upon the Brotherhood as their spokesmen with the railroad, for that never was a trusteeship of their own making. To perpetuate it by law would be to impose a tyranny in many respects analagous to 'taxation without representation.'"

TOWNSEND IMPRESSED

President William P. Townsend of the UTSEA, in commenting upon the far-reaching effects of this decision, declared:

"This decision of the Circuit court is indicative of the changes taking place in the railroad industry as a result of intelligent organized pressure. This decision, more than any other action taken in behalf of Negro railroad workers, faces the opponents of job discrimination and opens the flood gates for a successful offensive against the forces that seek to eliminate the Negro from the railroad industry."

TWO-YEAR-OLD SUIT

The decision resulted from a suit filed in 1941 by the UTSEA-CIO against the St. Paul Union Terminal, the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks and the National Mediation board after the board had arbitrarily certified the Clerks' union without an election as the collective bargaining agency for the 45 station employees of the St. Paul Terminal.

For more than three years this case has been bitterly fought before Federal agencies, boards and the courts.

CIO Official Probes Race Outbreaks In War Plants

Trade union circles revealed this week that high CIO officials in Washington are disturbed over the tightening race situation in many defense plants. Boyd Wilson, who is the personal representative of Philip Murray, president of the CIO United Steel Workers union, has been in Chicago secretly investigating racial disturbances at many defense plants for over a week.

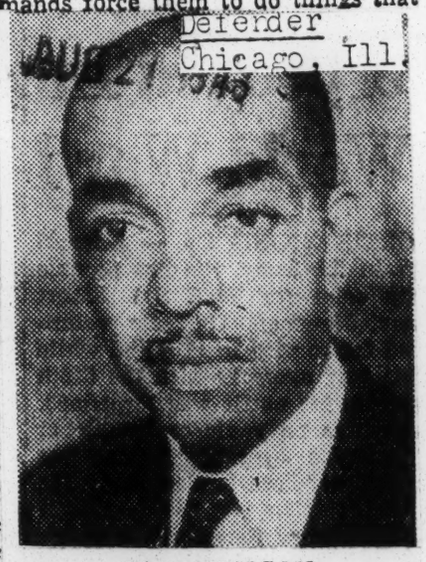
Wilson, it was learned, was dispatched hurriedly to Chicago when over 3000 Negro and white workers at the East Chicago cast armor plant of the American Steel Foundries company went out on strike over issues developing out of the arrest of a Negro boy who had struck a white foreman in self-defense.

Wilson stated, "The steel workers union through Philip Murray and David J. McDonald does not hesitate to enforce our non-discrimination policy even if it means taking disciplinary action against union officials.

"Intensification of race prejudice in many defense plants is caused usually by opposition of management and some white workers to giving Negro workers the equal treatment they are rightfully demanding.

"I strongly urge the 400,000 Negro workers in AFL, CIO and independent unions not to allow this refusal to recognize their just demands force them to do things that

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
AUG 21 1943



BOYD WILSON

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hamper and interrupt war production and throw discredit on their unions and on the Negro worker himself. Let us be smart enough to handle all grievances through established channels even if it means appealing to the union's international executive boards, presidents, and conventions.

"The very best way to keep our unions straight on the race issue," Wilson declared, "is for Negroes to attend union meetings in mass and vote for the things they want done. That method rarely fails."

O'Donnel Grill Cited For Barring Attempts of Employees to Organize

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.
SEP 25 1943

The National Labor Relations Board will review the case of workers allegedly discharged for attempts to organize the 300-odd employees of the O'Donnel Sea Food Grill, 1221 E Street, Northwest, the office of the United Cafeteria and Restaurant Workers, Local 471, U.F.W.A.—C.I.O., announced this week.

T. A. O'Donnel, the restaurateur, has been summoned to appear at 10, September 27, in the hearing room, Rochambeau Building, 815 Connecticut Avenue, Northwest, to answer union charges that he has engaged in and is now "engaged in unfair labor practices affecting commerce, as set forth in the National Labor Relations Act."

The hearings will be open to the public.

Persons specifically known to have been discharged for union activity have been subpeonaed by the NLRB. They are: William Alexander, presently in Detroit; Miss Alberta Washington, Miss Lizzie Jones and William Whitelowe.

Significantly, the union pointed out as characteristic of O'Donnel's anti-union practices, the case of Miss Jones. She was seen signing a membership card on April 1, whereupon she was summarily dismissed the following day.

Miss Jones was reinstated after unemployment for two months, this union said, only as the result of government pressure. She was not reimbursed, however, for her absence.

In a previous investigation of conditions O'Donnell claimed not to have recognized some of the workers making the charges as having been his employees. He considered himself as always having been "kind" to the people working for him and denied the charges of intimidation. He also denied that he had taken several signed cards from workers.

UAW to Pledge No-Strike Policy, But with Strings

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.
OCT 9 1943

Some Employers Need Curbing by U. S., Spokesman Says

By FRED W. PERKINS,
Scripps-Howard Staff Writer.

BUFFALO, Oct. 9.—Before the United Automobile Workers (CIO) adjourn their convention, probably tomorrow, this largest union in the world will have a chance to express itself on strikes in wartime.

This was assured today by Victor Reuther, chairman of the convention's resolution committee, who said his group will report a declaration in favor of continuing the no-strike pledge which organized labor gave the country two weeks after Pearl Harbor — but with an important "if" qualification.



Ask Plants' Seizure

As outlined by Mr. Reuther, the report will demand as a condition that the government undertake a strict policy of seizing plants of employers "who take advantage of the no-strike pledge through refusing to bargain collectively in good faith." Asked what agency would determine whether employers act in that manner, Mr. Reuther answered "the union."

Another question threatening trouble is the demand of spokesmen for "minority groups," principally Negro workers in auto plants, for a constitutional guarantee of representation on the international executive board.

The opposition to this proposal holds that Negro workers should not be restricted to one board member, should have as many as they can elect, and need no constitutional guarantee. But this argument either has not been appreciated by the Negro spokesmen, who have shouted strong denunciations over the microphones.

While actions of the convention have followed a fairly consistent pattern—the policy of the faction headed by vice president Reuther, with president R. J. Thomas in the position of a moderator between the contending groups—this pattern does not hold in the elections of the top officers.

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TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Robeson, at CIO Parley, Says Labor Must Back Negro Fight

AUG 28 1943

By Paul Robeson

(At the conference on racial and national minorities held on Aug. 8, in San Francisco, the sponsorship of the minorities committee of the CIO Council, Paul Robeson was one of the principal speakers. Below are excerpts from his address.)

As you know, I feel very deeply about the essential unity of all people. I feel very optimistc about achieving this complete unity in the future. I feel very deeply about the war, about what it means, and what the winning of it will mean to all people.

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It seems to me that the conference, in putting forth its essential objectives, has been very sound. I feel, as Mr. Bridges [Harry Bridges, west coast CIO leader] said, that certain very important things should be brought before us for a proper perspective.

We know what is before us, we know the forces that confront us here in America. We know what our struggle means in relation to the whole struggle, but I feel today just as keenly as I can that the message I would like to leave with you is that we cannot take too much for granted.

Those who are our friends must join with us in winning this struggle, for it is a very serious one: namely, whether we shall have a free hand, or perhaps a Fascist America. I do not believe we will have a Fascist Europe, or a Fascist Asia. We may have a Fascist America.

While traveling across the country, I met a man who said he was teaching in the Public Affairs Institute at Princeton University. This man believes in our present kind of system—and in the "great American initiative." It led him to say, therefore, that we cannot have any control or curb on this initiative. Such an attitude. of course, leaves him in the company of Mr. Hearst and Mr. McCormick.

TEMPER HAS CHANGED

Then I was in Portland, and I was shocked there to find that practically within our own group there were conditions that let's say the least, were undesirable. And then the most serious thing happened. At my point of departure, I met a Negro on the train.

This boy was talking to a soldier—a nice guy—a white soldier on the train. They talked for half an hour. Suddenly the soldier said something about "darkies," and the Negro said, "There are no such things as 'darkies," and finally it came to blows. The white soldier hit him. Another white soldier said. "This soldier is in the wrong. He called this fellow a name "nigger." Then the soldier who had offended him. apologized.

But in spite of that the young Negro boy said to me, "I hate them. Robeson. I hate all of them!"

I understand just how this boy felt. Yet I feel we need to get a perspective. I say today, from my experiences throughout America, that we face a very, very dangerous situation. And as a Negro today, I feel it my duty to say, not just what I feel, but what those others feel.

We understand the problem—black and white here—but there are millions of others outside who do not understand. One thing I feel is important, and that is to first realize very quickly that the temper of one tenth of the people of the United States has changed, and it is a very dangerous change.

PERIOD OF CHANGE

Now let us leave that and come back to the first objective of this conference; the question of jobs, and the question of what the unions have to do in integrating different minorities into their work, the question of making enough to live on.

So, today, I talk first to the members of my own special group as Negroes, because I am thinking of this boy. As you all know, I feel that the struggle is completely one struggle. We know we are all one, but we have these specific things we must face today. When I see riots break out in any part of the United States, I must speak what I feel concerning the possible solution, for this concerns our domestic scene in America very deeply.

We must realize what is really behind these riots, and how they affect the part we as Americans play in this whole world conflict. Nothing should be spared in our attempt to understand, it seems to me.

Today, we are living in a period of great change, of great historic change. We have made such advances in our technique of production that it is possible for man to produce all that is needed for everybody. In the days of the depression, we saw the cutting down of production, the misuse of our capacities, when we did not have enough to sustain human life.

Vice-President Wallace pointed out not long ago the changing of this whole picture in our modern society, of how much we can produce. Why should we not do it all the time? Why? Because, at this time, we know these productive capacites and forces are based upon private profit and monopoly economic control.

We have seen all nations face this labor and to approach this whole problem of minorities properly. It will rally all the progressive forces in this country; so many forces that are our potential [illegible] who do not want to [illegible].

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OUR ANSWER

The liberals of this country, our present administration, see the need in this struggle of recognizing all our allies. Our President goes to Mexico. This is a new kind of approach to the Mexican people. He welcomes in the White House the President of Liberia. We remember the Civil War and for a time we said, "Lincoln freed us." But it was not just a struggle between the industrial North and the feudal South. In order that the American nation remain united, the Negro had to be freed. Possibly something like that today also will determine the allies we shall have.

I deeply believe the whole future of America stands or falls with the complete unity of the American people, including the minorities of black, Mexican and Chinese. It will not be able to stand in the world after the war unless we do acheve this unity.

These are the facts. But the Negro boy said, "O. K., those are the facts. But I am still in despair. I still can't see it. I am ready to commit suicide. But I'll take somebody else along with me."

Now we have seen people commit suicide. We saw the French people commit suicde. We have seen labor leaders, ready to commit suicide by fighting against democracy in America. These things are possible. So it is one of the important things I want to say to you, both Negro and white.

I can only say, from what I have seen, that I feel the situation is really very grave. Labor will have to rally and understand these problems. I feel that the leadership must be within the ranks of labor, and especially the progressive section of labor. I hear references to the capacities of Negroes as they go to work and how the workers feel about them.

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Maybe they cannot do the work so well. I would say we must remember that it was not so long ago some people were saying that no worker in the world could break a machine faster than the Russian peasant and that no guy would ever be able to teach these Russian peasants to handle anything.

Maybe those of you who understand this colored boy standing here, maybe you will have to go 90 per cent of the way in helping him. He will need a great deal of help. A grave responsibility rests upon the Negro leadership of California.

There is a great responsibility upon labor.

It must say, we shall give all minorities an equal chance to live where they want to, to be free people. We will not have these things imposed upon us from other sections. We must really take the offensive and educate that section of the country which says that Negroes must always "keep their place."

I say again, I was shocked to find in New Mexico that they treat Mexicans as they treat us in other parts of the country. They treat the Chinese people the same way. These ar very important things for us to know. It is for us to tell our fellow Negroes that they treat these people as they treat us.

The most powerful forces that we have are the forces of labor, and the forces of the minority groups who must understand very clearly that no matter how difficult to struggle for our own group, no matter how serious the struggle within labor, no matter how progressive the administration which includes Roosevelt and Wallace, we cannot make the mistake of committing suicide and going over to the guys who will cut our throats and saying "Well, it's too bad, but we are slaves, like everybody else."

And further, if these guys should go a little too far, remember, this is a world war, and I assure you the colonial peoples, the people driven underground in Europe, are determined to live a free life.

But I am confident this will not be our kind of America. We will fight as heroically as the other peoples of the world have fought against fascism. We will go out of here this afternoon, and from our experiences will make everyone understand the need of national unity, and the unity of all minorities, so that we can stamp out quckly these reactionary forces and build the kind of world that you, here in the CIO, and progressive people all over the world. want to build.

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It is perfectly true that we have actual allies.

I have said, the same I have seen in the Negro press, would enslave us, would in recent times, that the great solu- American people, Negro and white whom I have told you, stands alone. forces that would the Mexican people, and ca rests largely with the CIO and alike, Mexican, Chinese and all the But how can he stand alone, unless enslave all chain labor. There is minority groups. It is perfectly its power to integrate the forces of clear, and I include in this the great two thirds of the American people labor. There is its power to integrate the forces of forces of labor, because this is cans and the [illegible] but that fascism in where fascism strikes first. We suf- they would take this course. fer most if these forces win. We have one of the greatest

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We can be sure that labor would ington, we were alone. We felt that But we have the chance to see be crushed first, and labor can be we had friends of some kind. It realized. I am talk- certain that its freedom would dis- would seem to me that today we organizations in the that puts into practice the things should think of those who can you want to see

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CIO Picks Nominees; OK Cacchione, Davis

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.
OCT 9 1943

By Dorothy Loeb

Swinging into an intensive campaign for the election of win-the-war, pro-labor nominees to all public posts, the city CIO, speaking for approximately 500,000 unionists, has selected seven nominees for preferential endorsement, all American Labor Party candidates.

The Council also gave endorsement to a number of other candidates, including Councilman Peter V. Cacchione and Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., Communists.

The seven, who will receive No. 1 backing from all CIO affiliates, are:

Lieut. Gen. William Haskell, Democratic and American Labor Party candidate for Lieutenant Governor.

Judge Francis Rivers, Republican and ALP candidate for City Court Justice.

Michael Quill, Transport Workers Union president, ALP candidate for City Council, Bronx.

Eugene P. Connolly, ALP leader, candidate for City Council, Manhattan.

Richard Mazza, CIO United Furniture Workers official, ALP candidate for City Council, Kings.

Abraham Bernknopf, Wholesale and Warehouse Workers Local 65 leader, ALP candidate for City Council, Kings.

A. Joseph Donnelly, ALP candidate for City Council, Queens.

ENDORSE COMMUNISTS

These preferential endorsements, recommended by CIO's local Political Action Committee, were approved by more than 300 delegates from affiliated local unions Thursday night at Fraternal Clubhouse. At the same session, delegates endorsed the other candidates on the basis of record and program, including Councilman Cacchione, Communist candidate for reelection in Kings, and Davis, Communist candidate for City Council in Manhattan.

Paul Mills, city CIO secretary, who presented the Political Action Committee's recommendations, made it clear that proposals were made with a view to electing 100 per cent pro-war officials, to strengthen support behind President Roosevelt, defeat the defeatists, and secure the return to public posts of labor officials backing a CIO program. Further endorsements will be considered by the City CIO Council at a special meeting at Fraternal Clubhouse next Tuesday night.

SUPREME COURT POST

Hope that unity or some measure of it may be achieved in ALP ranks was extended by Mills. He referred to the candidacy of Matthew Levy, Democratic and ALP nominee for Supreme Court, explaining that no recommendation would be made until next Tuesday, pending conferences in which "we hope to work out unity."

Without disclosing details of what was under consideration, Mills indicated that there was a possibility that a program might be presented next Tuesday night "which will unite labor behind Haskell and Quill."

The right wing of the ALP controls Bronx County where Quill is a candidate and Levy is ALP Bronx chairman.

OTHER ENDORSEMENTS

Besides Cacchione and Davis, those given endorsement, without preference, by the CIO are:

Councilman Stanley Isaacs, Republican and Fusion candidate for reelection to City Council from Manhattan.

Evelyn Baker Richmond, Democratic and ALP candidate for Assembly from the 15th A. D.

Councilwoman Genevieve Earle, Republican candidate for reelection to City Council, Kings.

Norman Johnson, Negro Republican candidate for City Council Kings.

Lieut. Col. William O'Dwyer, all party candidate for District Attorney, Kings.

Daniel Gutman, Democratic candidate for Municipal Court Justice, Kings.

Peter T. Farrell, Democratic and ALP candidate for County Judge, Queens.

Charles P. Sullivan, Democratic and ALP candidate for District Attorney, Queens.

Ernest Roman and Patrick Gallagher, candidates for Assembly, Queens.

CIO

The Political Action Committee recommended endorsement of City Councilman William A. Carroll, Manhattan Democrat, but the CIO voted to defer action on him until next Tuesday night when several delegates protested that his voting record in the past—not generally favorable to labor—required reconsideration.

In announcing endorsement of Cacchione, Mills paid special tribute to his labor record and noted his efforts to get win-the-war legislation through the Council. Reporting on Davis, he pointed particularly to his record in Harlem and emphasized his endorsement by such community leaders as Councilman A. Clayton Powell now retiring from office, who has called on voters to elect Davis to succeed him.

Mills hit newspaper stories that there was "apathy" among voters regarding the coming election. The registration drop, he said, reflected chiefly the fact that 500,000 New York City eligibles were now in the armed services. CIO activity brought out a great part of the registration, he reported, praising locals for their active participation.

ELECTION PLANS

Barney Conal, activities director, announced immediate CIO plans to follow up on registration. He urged affiliates:

1. To check up on voters in the shops, getting names and addresses of all who registered.
2. To make wide use of a newly issued CIO bulletin which contains five pages on the elections.
3. To provide election canvassers for CIO Community Councils.
4. To arrange now to insure voting by instructing shops to prepare for the 6 P. M. closing of the polls. Workers should vote, if possible, before coming to work and should be informed that time off for voting is mandatory under the law.

The Council also stepped up its campaign for funds pledged by affiliates for the financing of this work.

Labor Fight In Court

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

CIO Union Accuses Florida Of 'Slaveocracy' Practice

ORLANDO, Fla., Sept 2 (ANP)—"Florida's slaveocracy is still alive," said members of the Citrus and Allied Workers' union, CIO, when they investigated the arrest of Otis Nation, leader of the union.

Nation was formally arrested on a charge of doing business as an emigrant agent without a license, when his activities actually consisted of his supplying the War Manpower Commission with a list of names of unemployed union members who might be referred to jobs in Camden, N. J., to break a labor shortage threatening to destroy a tomato crop.

Nation, who is slated to appear before a jury [illegible] September 13, [illegible] under $2,000 bond.

WORKERS WERE JOBLESS

Reports say that 438 Negro workers who made the trip despite citrus growers' and shippers' threats are busily packing tomatoes in Camden, mostly for the Army. They will return here October 1, expenses paid by the Campbell company. All of this is going on while Florida's Attorney General, Tom Watson, goes on preparing a case against Nation.

An article appearing in the Orlando Morning Sentinel, revealed that the newspaper regards any attempt to direct idle manpower to work out of the state as "labor theft." The labor theft concept is said to acquire special significance when it is recalled that all the 438 workers now in Camden are Negroes. All were previously unemployed.

MINSTREL CARTOON

A picture in the Sentinel depicts a minstrel show type Negro holding a hoe, labeled "that old steady job right here at home." The Daily Worker states that in contrast to this cartoon, is presented a "labor racketeer" holding a balloon full of "hot air" and a valise labelled "carpet bag tricks," and tells him: "Look Brother, we'll give you the whole world with a fence around it and you can sit on the [illegible]."

It is explained that the most stirring reminder that the Nation case represents a move by a stubborn slaveocracy, is the cartoon's characterization of the door leading to Camden as "entrance to a Northbound train;" that under the same cartoon also appear pictures of the Negro in winter, broken by his Camden experiences, and forced to walk back on railroad ties. The picture carries the title, "The Primrose Path and the Long Road Back."

WIN CIO CONTEST

The Citrus and Allied Workers' union, which Nation heads, said to be affiliated with the CIO, and has gained 4,000 new members here since last December, won the first CIO contract in the state, and succeeded in getting raises and advancing the unity of Negro and white.

The state of Florida is said to be adhering to the method of restricting labor's flow to out-of-the-state war jobs in order to maintain a consistently large supply to keep wages down, and to "protect" a long-time underpaid labor group from contact with more advanced and better paid workers elsewhere.

The case is said to bring to the fore the anti-war, anti-administration prejudices of sections of the most reactionary groupings who are trying to use the Nation arrest to drive the WMC out of the state.

Bethlehem Workers Return Following Racial Strike

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Workers, Negro and white, were back on their jobs at the Bethlehem Steel Shipbuilding Company at Sparrows Point, Md. this week after several days of walkouts and negotiations involving a training course in riveting by the company.

The training course has been reopened on its original basis—available to all regardless of race, creed or color.

The settlement was put into operation Monday when the union had opened against the training program, mediately walked out in protest and which included Negroes. The against the school's closing and, pres-company immediately met with after a conference with them, the prompt-the white workers, pointed out management agreed to reopen again and the need for a 50 per cent in the course.

The company, which had ed the school a week before had closed it down under sure from white workers, pro-ly launched the course again

union—Local 33— met Sunday

involved—International Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers (IUMSW-CIO)—the company and the workers themselves reached an agreement with the aid of Clarence Mitchell, representative of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice and Julius M. Gardner, regional representative of the War Manpower Commission.

The executive board of the union voted for reopening of the

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This was done last Friday but strong protests from the white workers caused the management to close down the yard "to prevent violence." The three-day conference of two union committees and the union local's executive board meeting followed.

Monday morning the majority of workers of both races reported to work and, although some of the white workers walked off the job again, the yard continued operation, with state, county and company police present to insure order.

On Tuesday, the absent workers returned to their jobs after the union had threatened to discipline any members who walked out.

Indicate CIO Intends To Press Fight For Tolerance

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Discrimination First Target Of Union Officials

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(A N P) —Pointing to the plan of action laid out by the United Automobile Workrs for combatting race discrimination, George L. P. Weaver, administrator of the CIO Anti-Discrimination committee declared at the Congress for Industrial Organization has been and intends to remain in the forefront of those elements opposing discrimination, both within and outside of the ranks of labor.

Weaver was referring to the September issue of "Ammunition," official publication of the education department of the auto workers' international union of which R. J. Thomas is President, which lays down a specific conference program based upon the Detroit experience.

"Faced with the responsibility and necessity for strong union action to prevent further disgraceful occurrences such as the insurrections in Los Angeles, Detroit, and New York, leaders everywhere must find means to attack the pecific local sources of discrimination as well as untensify the broader battle against ignorance and prejudice," the unsigned article begins. Its proposal for stimulating local action is the "one-day conference, factory-wide, city-wide, or regional.

The conference is called not for the purpose of arguing about the union's stand on the question, "which is clear and unequivocal," the organ continues, but for the purpose of planning concerted efforts to remove particular "bottlenecks and to develop the education of the whole membership and the community at large."

The proposal goes into some detail as to how to go about arranging conferences and achieving the desired end all within the framework of democratic processes.

Thomas Should Be Re-Elected

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

The United Automobile Workers of America (CIO) will hold its convention at Buffalo, N. Y., on October 4, 1943, at which time its presidential election will be held.

Dozens of Negro delegates will attend the convention and participate in the election.

With the numerous questions which the delegates will consider at this union convention we have no very great concern, but we do feel very strongly that the UAW president, R. J. Thomas, should be supported by every Negro delegate because Mr. Thomas has been loyal and outspoken in his advocacy of fair play for colored workers.

It is sound policy at all times for Negroes to reward their friends and punish their enemies—and R. J. Thomas is obviously their friend.

He has gone out of his way through the years of his administration to take a forthright, courageous and healthy stand in behalf of Negroes, whether or not they were members of his union, often against the advice of his fellow officers and when he did not have to do it.

It is extremely important that Negro delegates show the world that union officials will never lose by supporting the official CIO no-discrimination policy where Negroes are concerned.

Such an attitude on the part of Negroes will strengthen the determination of other union officials who want to do the right thing but hesitate for fear they will not have the support of colored and liberal white union men and women.

It is reliably reported that reactionaries and Ku Kluxers within the UAW-CIO are organizing to punish R. J. Thomas for his forthright stand against jim crowism and Negrophobia as illustrated in the cases of the Detroit riot and the Packard strike.

They will succeed unless all those delegates who believe in the principles laid down in the constitution of the UAW and all other CIO unions rally to his support.

Let it never be said that Negroes have failed to support those who have supported them.

CIO 'Labor For Victory' Broadcast Hits Prejudice

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12—(ANP) —Racial discrimination, an evil the CIO has been fighting for a long time, was the subject of the CIO's "Labor for Victory" national radio program. Four CIO leaders, two of them Negro, took part in the discussion.

James Carey, national CIO secretary-treasurer and chairman of the CIO Committee to Abolish Discrimination, in starting the discussion, declared that the war "requires the full use of all our strength in material, manpower and morale."

TOWNSEND AIRS VIEWS

Willard S. Townsend, president of the United Transport Service employes, CIO, listed some of the main points in the treatment of Negroes in armed service and in civilian communities which created tension.

Others who participated in the roundtable were John P. Brophy, CIO member of the FEPC, and George L. Weaver, UTSEA-CIO Washington representative and director of the CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination.

PAUL ROBESON HONORED

NEW YORK— (ANP)— Representatives of labor organizations affiliated with the CIO, at a luncheon on Friday conferred lifetime membership in the International Longshoremen's and Warehouse men's union on Paul Robeson, singer actor, and Rockwell Kent artist, Joseph Curran, president of the NMU, was chairman.

Milwaukee Negroes Call For War Unity

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

(Special to the Daily Worker)

MILWAUKEE, Sept. 7. — That Milwaukee Negroes are taking an active part in win-the-war, anti-Negro discrimination and roll-back-the prices movements in Wisconsin was in evidence today from the discussions and resolutions at a recent meeting in the Sixth ward.

Ishmael P. Flory, organizer for the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, CIO, of Chicago, sounded a call for unity of Negro and white workers for a speedy victory in the war and the immediate opening of the Second Front in Europe.

"The opening of a Western Front in Europe is of the greatest urgency," Flory said. "The longer such action is delayed, the more time the Fifth Column has to carry on its work in splitting the American people in the approved Hitler method, that is, along color lines."

Victory in the war, Flory added, is uppermost in the minds of the Negro people who realize what would happen to Negroes and all minority groups should Naziism win out. He pointed out that all trade unionism and democracy also would be wiped out in the event of a fascist victory.

Joe Ellis, chairman of the Negro Trade Unionists in Milwaukee which sponsored the meeting, presided.

Lu[illegible]ride, N[illegible]o shop steward of Local 2[illegible]AW, (Allis-Chalmers), declared the government's Fair Employment Practices Committee, while working in the right direction, was not progressing rapidly enough.

JOBS FOR NEGROES

One resolution passed at the meeting called for the extension of the hiring of Negro workers and their upgrading as an important step in the solution of the manpower problem.

Another resolution acknowledged the tremendous [illegible] the trade unions are playing in the fight against discrimination through the co-operation of Negro and white workers.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

A Labor Decision Of Broad Significance

THE National Labor Relations Board has just rendered a decision in a case emanating from Memphis which has broad significance.

The decision makes the United Furniture Workers of America (CIO) the recognized bargaining agent for the plant, over the protest of a

The issue raised by the A. F. of L. was that if it was denied the right to bargain for the unit appropriate for the purposes of collective bargaining, in any case, the C. I. O. would fall to C. I. O) the recognized bargaining agent unionists, who were Negroes. The

to A. F. of L. skilled crafts, and who exclude Negroes from membership.

minority of the workers who belong

color or race of employees is an irrelevant and extraneous consideration in determining,

Negroes from membership.

Negroes Demand Jobs Skilled Negroes from both principal trades urge immediate arrangements.

CIO

CIO Shifts Convention From St. Louis To Philadelphia To Duck Race Prejudice

Pittsburgh Courier

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 5—The National CIO, through its local office, set a precedent here last week when it cancelled all plans to hold its national convention in St. Louis. Oscar A. Ehrhardt, secretary of the CIO Industrial Union council, said the convention, originally scheduled here in November, will be held instead in Philadelphia because leading hotels in St. Louis refused to rent rooms to Negro delegates.

The CIO executive board, at a meeting in Washington, July 7, selected St. Louis as the convention city. The local CIO immediately began the necessary negotiations with St. Louis hotels, but the Convention bureau and the Hotel association, convention dictators for the city, would give no satisfaction about the housing of race delegates, hence the decision to shift the meeting to Philadelphia.

CONSIDERS COLORED DELEGATES

Ehrhardt stated that the national convention is usually attended by from 500 to 600 delegates, about 25 or 30 of whom are Negroes.

"We certainly didn't feel like asking our Negro delegates to live in hotels where the sessions were not being held," said Ehrhardt.

F. H. Rein, secretary-general manager of the St. Louis Convention, Publicity and Tourist Bureau, said that it was the "custom" for Negro delegates to similar conventions to attend the sessions and functions in the public rooms of the convention hotels, but to live, while here, in Negro hotels.

J. C. Meacham, president of the St. Louis Hotel association, said he did not confer with CIO officials, but that he understood they had received the "routine" explanation regarding the "local custom" concerning the housing of Negro delegates.

Western Md. CIO Urges Fight on Jim Crow

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

AUG 11 1943

CUMBERLAND, Md., Aug. 10.—CIO leaders in this industrial city, which lies just south of the Mason and Dixon line, have united in sending a call to all members of CIO unions to join in defeating race discrimination for the purpose of "ending German fascism."

The call is signed by Ralph C. Beard, president of the Western Maryland Industrial Union Council, CIO; Roy E. Davy, president Local 26, United Rubber Workers of America, and Boyd E. Payton, national representative of the Textile Workers Union of America.

It follows in part:

"1. The policy of no discrimination because of race, color or religion is basic CIO policy. . . .

"2. In the war crisis it is essential that the labor of everyone be used to the greatest advantage. This can be done only if hiring and advancement are carried on without distinction of color. To set up barriers to a certain group is unwise, unpatriotic and defeats our country's all-out effort toward winning the war.

"3. The President's executive order No. 8802, which has the force of law, states that in defense industries 'there shall be no discrimination in the employment and opportunities of workers because of race, creed, color or national origin.' Employers and unions are both bound by this order of the President."

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

OPA Official Ousted on Racial Predjudice Charge

JUL 3 1943

The fight to end racial discrimination wherever and whenever it exists went a step further toward victory this week when Walter Jacobson, chief of the printing and distribution branch of the Office of Price Administration was ousted, according to an announcement made by Edward N. Hay, acting deputy administrator for administrative management to War Agencies Local 203, CIO United Federal Workers of America.

The CIO local brought the charges, upon request of its members in the printing and distribution branch, against Mr. Jacobson demanding his dismissal on charges of operation of the branch had been marred by racial discrimination and inefficiency.

A joint union-management investigating committee, first of its type ever to be set up by the government, studied the charges during a six-months period and found the charges against Mr. Jacobson to be well founded.

The dismissal of Mr. Jacobson was referred to as a resignation which Mr. Hay "concluded that it would be advisable to accept." The dismissal, however, has incurred problems which subsequently must be worked out by the union in the branch.

It has been revealed that Negroes already have been given better jobs during the reclassification early in the union's fight but no adequate adjustment in wages have been made. The drive for this adjustment will be intensified according to a pledge made by Mrs. Louise Gerrard, local representative of the CIO Local 203.

Film Star Aids CIO Drive:

Chicago Defender

Urges Negro-White Unity

CHARLESTON, S. C. — (ANP) — The race problem is not more serious in the South than in other sections of the nation.

It just seems so because there are more Negroes in the South, was the opinion expressed here this week by Miss Karen Morley, celebrated star of stage and screen, who has deserted her profession for the duration to direct her efforts toward organizing southern workers under the CIO banner.

Since coming here a week ago she has done excellent work in helping to organize Negro and white workers at the American Tobacco factory here.

"It is important," Miss Morley said, "for the suppressed groups in the South, both Negroes and poor whites, to realize they are not alone in their struggle for political and economic freedom."

Finding Charleston charming, Miss Morley opined: "But I can't help remarking about the strong contrasts here. Negroes living in every section of the city, close to beautiful dwellings — Negroes living in utter squalor while their white neighbors live comfortably and at ease.

"The school situation is very depressing. I don't quarrel with segregation if the race segregated is given equal opportunities and equal accommodations. Overcrowded Negro schools, overburdened and underpaid teachers — this isn't fair or right. Charleston is a good place in which to make a study of these questions It is the most dramatic example of southern cities.

"Why can't people realize that the suppression of minorities just doesn't pay? It will draw the whole level of society down. How can we criticize England's treatment of India, when we fail to practice democracy ourselves?

"Yes, it's important to give these poor people their full civil rights, but the best way to help anybody is to fix up their pay checks. Civil rights on an empty stomach don't mean much.

"I can't see how the United States can afford to discriminate against Negroes in war work. We need to develop all the skilled labor we can get. There is no better way to assure victory."

Miss Morley said that among the labor groups of this country the CIO best expresses her views. Since her residence in Charleston she has attended many CIO gatherings, has made speeches and has helped to distribute literature.

CIO Wins Election At Sun Shipbuilding Yard

Chicago Defender

CHESTER, Pa.—One of the greatest labor union victories of the year was recorded here Thursday, when the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers, CIO, won the election over the company organization at the big Sun Shipbuilding company here.

Indicative of the interest aroused in the election, ordered by the National Labor Relations Board, is the fact that of the 34,000 men employed at the plant, 29,700 were eligible to vote, and of this number, 25,586 cast ballots in the election. About 15,000 of the workers are Negroes.

The election returns, showed the following vote: 12,816 for the CIO; 11,906 for the Sun Ship Employes Association (company union); 864 ballots marked "no union," and 61 votes challenged by the SSEA.

Certification Assured

It was declared that certification of the CIO as the plant's bargaining agent is practically assured, because, despite the CIO majority, if only eight of the challenged votes go to CIO, it will still retain the required majority of the 25,586 votes counted.

The Sun Shipbuilding and Drydock company, largest shipbuilding concern in the East, is a subsidiary of the Sun Oil company, owned by the Pew family, J. Howard Pew, president. Last year the firm announced the opening of its now famous No. 4 yard, employing 6,000 Negro workers, no whites. In the other yards, 9,000 colored workers are also employed.

CIO officials said the victory last week climaxed seven years of struggle to unionize the big plant, and that the company had left no stone unturned to balk the CIO. Among the many who addressed the workers was A. Clayton Powell, councilman of New York City.

CIO men said the Sun company's campaign of intimidation against the workers was climaxed a fortnight ago when seven workers were shot by company guards. One of the victims died last week. All of the men involved in the trouble, both guards and workers, were Negroes.

Commenting on the plant election, CIO Organizer William Bell declared:

"The CIO victory shows the real maturity of the labor movement and its understandinig of the need to support the President's war policies. It marks a new high in Negro

Detroit All Set to 'Let Congress Know'

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.
By Thos. X. Dombrowski
(Special to the Daily Worker)

JUN 19 1943

DETROIT, June 17.—The full strength of organized labor and progressive civic and community organizations is being mobilized for the "Tell It to Congress Week" starting Sunday, June 20, JUN 21 1943 the mass membership meeting of the Ford Local of the United Automobile Workers at Olympia Stadium scheduled to open at noon ing for a roll back in prices with

Mayor Edward J. Jeffries, Jr. of restoration of price labelling and Detroit has proclaimed this week a rigid enforcement officially calling upon all Detroiters ings. It has set a goal of a half to participate. Previously, Ham- million signatures to be taken by tramck had also taken action call- a delegation of three to Washing- ing it to the attention of its citi- ton at the end of the week. zens.

NEGROES TO PARTICIPATE

The Wayne County Council of the CIO has issued a petition call- Negro ministers have received

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

material from the Citizens Committee, a representative body which is cooperating in the campaign on the poll tax bill, with a request that postal cards and resolutions be solicited at the church meetings this Sunday.

A petition has been sent to the City Council asking for permission to set up booths at Grand Circus Park downtown, by the Civil Rights Federation which has helped UAW-CIO by mobilizing various organizations outside the CIO. Here petitions will be available, pedestrians will be informed of the purposes of the drive and urged to send cards to their congressmen.

One of the most extensive drives is being planned by the International Workers Order in Wayne County. Attractive posters which raise the slogans of "Stop the attack upon our allies" and "Open the Second Front" in addition to those on the poll tax, anti-labor bills and prices, have been widely distributed in the communities where lodges are located.

Loudspeakers will be set up at different halls or corners every day of the week., carrying the message of the campaign to many thousands of people. On Saturday, June 26, a sound truck will cover the 16th Congressional District represented in Congress by John Lesinski, who has betrayed his electorate by working closely with the Polish pro-fascists and appeasers.

FIGHT LESINSKI BETRAYAL

"Our organization endorsed Mr. Lesinski during the last campaign," said Sam Milgrom, State Secretary of the IWO to the Daily Worker reporter. "We feel that it is our duty, since we supported him on the basis of his pledge to support a victory program, to get to the people of his district and inform them of the scandalous and shocking role being played by him in Congress today."

In addition to a general leaflet, the IWO organization in Ecorse, suburb of Detroit, is set for a house to house canvass to get every citizen to write to Congress on any of the various bills. Post cards which have already been turned into the district office reflect the problems of the people. Many of them are addressed to Lesinski asking him whether he was elected by the fascist Polish emigres or by the workers of his community. Others deal with lowering of prices and opposing anti-labor legislation.

Many lodges have passed resolutions to Richard Frankensteen, Vice-president of the UAW, commending him for his initiation of the "Tell It To Congress Week."

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Members of the Committee in charge of the drive express confidence that there will be an avalanche of cards and telegrams leaving Detroit for Washington during the week. They expect that almost every local will send one or more delegates to the Capital on the conclusion of the drive.

CIO Interview

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

BY HORACE R. CAYTON

WHILE in Washington last week, I went to see Mr. James B. Carey, Secretary of the Congress of Industrial Organizations. My visit with Mr. Carey brought out, to my amazement the fact that a couple of articles I had written criticizing him and the CIO for failure to get along with the Committee on Racial discrimination had created quite a bit of comment in CIO circles. Carey though extremely affable, was critical both of my facts and my point of view. After about an hour, our conversation boiled down to important differences in points of view about what should be done about the Negro problem in labor.



Mr. Cayton

Here are the two points of view:

CAREY: We have been working over a period of time, slowly but surely, to stamp out segregation in various internationals of the CIO. Probably if we had advertised our work more widely such criticism as yours would have had no leg to stand on. Your criticism, at this time, creates disunity within the ranks of labor and is interpreted as a personal attack on Mr. Murray and myself.

The Negro public does not fully realize the importance of the labor movement and it should be the job of a person such as yourself to give them a full knowledge so that they will line themselves with the only group that tries to assist them in solving their problems and does not exploit them. Particularly we did not like your statement "that Murray could have bought his Negro support cheaply," for five thousand dollars, which you alleged was asked for to support the Committee. I took the position in the Committee meeting that the Committee should win its way, outline its program and achieve results before asking the executive Committee for five thousand dollars or any other sum.

CAYTON: We look at this thing differently in that in a period of a crisis such as this, immediate action is imperative. The announcement of the formation of this Committee in the late spring of last year, the long discussion of it at the National Convention in Boston led persons such as myself to believe immediate action was forthcoming. I was critical because I felt that valuable time was being wasted and with savage attacks being made on Negroes and labor that these two natural allies should get together as soon as possible. Further, that neither should sit and wait for the other to approach him but that labor, with superior facilities for organization, should necessarily take the initiative. I feel further that the Negro and especially the Negro press should be critical of even their friends and allies if they do not seem inclined to accept them as full partners in a mutual fight against reaction.

In speaking about Mr. Murray's being able to get Negro support for five thousand dollars, I was thinking of Murray as a symbol of the CIO and the labor movement in general. I did not have any intention of making an attack on labor unity by singling out Murray for personal criticism, but after all Murray represents and symbolizes the CIO.

Finally, I think that the labor movement and the CIO should be criticized for failure to understand Negro organizations and especially the Negro press. A specific instance of this was the fact that you didn't know that The Pittsburgh Courier had maintained an ardent and aggressive pro-CIO point of view for the past five years. This has been indicated time and again in editorial comments and by various columnists.

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California CIO Plans Race Unity Rally

The Daily Worker, New York, N. Y.

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"It is proper that the initiative for unity should come from the unions because of their heavy stake in a war to defeat fascism everywhere.

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Globe and Independent, Nashville, Tenn

THE SPIRIT OF THE CIO

(Detroit Tribune)

The UAW-CIO has again demonstrated that fine spirit of democracy which has contributed so much toward its phenomenal growth and progress. George Addis, international secretary-treasurer of the organization, announces that the national annual convention of the UAW-CIO which was scheduled to be held in St. Louis, Sept. 29 will not convene in that city but will be held in Buffalo on accommodations for UAW-CIO delegates to provide hotel accommodations for colored delegates to the convention. The CIO showed its spirit of democracy, by refusing to yield to this kind of race prejudice and segregation. St. Louis is a great American city. Its business people provided the famous Charles Lindbergh made across the Atlantic to Paris, France. Yet, St. Louis, and the non-stop solo flight which failed to prove big enough to bridge the plane, Spirit of St. Louis, and

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The committee, Carey and Townsend reported, "has brought home to CIO members, and often to management as well, the forcible fact, that a war to establish the Four Freedoms requires these same Four Freedoms behind the firing line, in the shops and mills and factories where the munitions of war are turned out."

Globe and Independent Nashville, Tenn

THE SPIRIT OF THE CIO

(Detroit Tribune)

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351-1943

DISTINGUISHED LEADERS "SHAKE"



Henry Wallace, Vice President of the United States, who addressed the CIO convention Wednesday morning in Philadelphia. Shapped as he warmly greeted Willard S. Townsend, president of the UTSEA (United Transport Service Employees

Ass'n), and a member of the executive board of the union. Mr. Townsend, who is also secretary of the National CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination, was a member of the powerful Resolutions committee, around which the work of the convention revolved.

CIO

which is at the present time before the Director of the Office of Economic Stabalization.

Pullman laundries are located at Chicago, New York, Buffalo, Washington, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Kansas City, Tampa, Miami and Oakland, California.

HEAD CITRUS WORKERS UNION ARRESTED

Tribune

Charged With Doing Business Without a License

IS AT LIBERTY UNDER A $2,000 BOND

Savannah, Ga.

Orlando, Fla., Sept. 30 (ANP) —Florida's slavocracy is still alive, said members of the Citrus and Allied Workers union, CIO, when they investigated the arrest of Otis Nation, leader of the union.

Nation was formally arrested on a charge of doing business as an emigrant agent without a license, when his activities actually consisted of his supplying the War Manpower commission with a list of names of unemployed union members who might be referred to jobs in Camden, N. J., to break a labor shortage threatening to destroy a tomato crop.

Nation is stated to appear before a jury during the week of Sept. 13, is now at liberty under a 2,000 bond.

Reports say that 438 Negro workers who made the trip despite citrus growers' and shippers' threats are busily packing tomatoes in Camden, mostly for the army. They will return here, Oct. 1, expenses paid by the Campbell Co. All of this is going on while Florida's Atty. Gen. Tom Watson goes on preparing a case against Nation.

An article appearing in the Orlando Morning Sentinel, revealed that the newspaper regards any attempt to direct idle manpower to work out of the state as "labor theft." The labor theft concept is said to acquire special significance when it is recalled that all the 438 workers now in Camden are Negroes. All were previously unemployed.

A picture in the Sentinel depicts a minstrel show type Negro holding a hoe, labeled "that old steady job right here at home." The Daily Worker states that in contrast to this cartoon, is presented a "labor racketeer" holding a baloon full of "hot air" and a valise labeled "carpet bag tickets," and tells him: "Look Brother, we'll give you the whole world with a fence around it and you can sit on the fence."

It is explained that the most stirring reminder that the Nation case represents a move by a stubborn slavocracy, is the cartoon's characterization of the door leading to Camden as "entrance to a north-bound train;" that under the same cartoon also appears pictures of the Negro in winter broken by his Camden experiences, and forced to walk back on railroad ties. The picture carries the title, "The Primrose Path and the Long Road Back."

The Citrus and Allied Workers union, which Nation heads, said to be affiliated with the CIO, and has gained 4,000 new members here since last December, won the first CIO contract in the state, and succeeded in getting raises and advancing the unity of Negro and white.

The state of Florida is said to be adhering to the method of restricting labor's flow to out-of-the-state war jobs, in order to maintain a consistent labor surplus, to keep wages down, and to "protect" a long-time underpaid labor group from contact with more advanced and better paid workers elsewhere.

The case is said to bring to the fore the anti-war, anti-administration prejudices of sections of the most reactionary grouping who are trying to use the Nation arrest to drive the WMC out of the state.

$125,000 Hike Gained For Pullman Laundry Workers By The C. I. O.

St. Louis, Mo.
Argus

WASHINGTON—As one of its first major victories for the Pullman laundry workers of the country, the United Transport Service Employees of America, CIO, has granted a 10c hourly wage increase in the ten Pullman laundry plants this summer. The approval of this agreement by the Special Railroad Labor Panel was necessary before it could go into effect.

In addition to this increase, an agreement has been reached between the CIO union and the Pullman Company calling for a further 8c hourly increase. This increase is contingent upon the approval of 8c increase for all non-operating railroad employees, which is at the present time before the Director of the Office of Economic Stabalization.

The increase will be retroactive to Oct. 1, 1942 which calls for the payment of more than $75,000 to employees in back wages, it was also revealed. The increase was agreed upon by the UTSEA-CIO and the Pullman Company shortly after the union won a nation-wide election and collective bargaining agency in the Special Railroad Labor Panel established to handle all wage questions relative to railroad employees.

The increase goes into effect this week at the various Pullman laundry plants throughout the country, and represents an annual increase over present wage rates of approximately $125,000, union spokesmen declared.

Ferdinand C. Smith, NMU Secretary, Elected To National Executive Board Of CIO In Philadelphia

Age
New York, N. Y.

PHILADELPHIA—The election of Ferdinand C. Smith, national secretary of the National Maritime Union, to the National Executive Board of the CIO, is a major step forward in the fight by the CIO against discrimination, and for national unity to win the war and the peace.

This view was expressed by Frederick Myers, vice-president of the NMU, who had voluntarily stepped down as the NMU representative on the top CIO body and nominated Smith for the post at the CIO convention in Philadelphia last Friday. Myers had been the unanimous choice of the NMU delegation at the convention, to succeed himself.

"I considered it a privilege to withdraw in favor of my colleague and co-worker, Brother Smith, because he is both a great Negro leader and an outstanding fighter for the CIO," Myers said. "The NMU delegation led by President Joseph Curran felt that now, more than ever, it was important to deal effectively with every phase of Negro discrimination. Against the recent disturbing natinal background of rampant racism and hatemongering, Smith's election by the CIO convention stands out, therefore, as a major development in the struggle against discrimination."

Since Philip Murray assumed the leadership of the CIO, great impetus has been given this campaign. Its impact has reached into virtually every American community, as well as that of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, CIO, the certified bargaining agent, and the Sun Ship Management, moved forward to a successful conclusion of all difficulties last week with the setting of the final date of August 5, by the National War Labor Board in Washington for the Sun Ship Management to show cause why it

Union Puts Woman As Bargaining Agt.

Philadelphia Tribune Pa.
(By Special Correspondent) Sun Shipbuilding, CHESTER, Pa., between Local 42, Industrial Union

has not recognized local 2, as the bargaining agent after winning the National Labor Board election on June 30, by the CIO.

The only other obstacle to be cleared up is the court case filed by the SSEA, asking for an injunction forbidding the management of Sun Ship to recognize the CIO as the bargaining agent. A hearing on this was held Wednesday in Philadelphia, before Judge Welsh.

Counsel for the Union has pointed out that, if granted, such an injunction would in effect be an assumption of the right to upset a NLRS elections.

Last week elections were held by the membership of Local 2, in Chester, and a negotiating committee of 45 members was elected from all shifts.

Following are the names of the colored workers at Sun Ship elected to the CIO negotiating committee: T. Kee, Redwood, E. Adams, Steth, Maude White, only woman on the committee and a worker in the Timekeepers Department; Wilson Long, George Williams, H. Jenkins, R. Evans, W. Allen and J. Belcher.

CIO Convention Urges Congress to Save FEPC

Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

Sixth Annual Meet Hits Poll Tax; Mrs. Roosevelt, H. A. Wallace Stress Freedom

PHILADELPHIA

A Congressional appropriation for the continuation of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee as a permanent organization was urged last week by more than 600 delegates attending the sixth annual CIO convention at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel.

They also voted to extend the activities of the CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination and to fight for the eradication of the poll tax.

The resolution on the FEPC was adopted following the report of CIO president, Philip Murray, who branded the poll tax as the "most vicious legislation in the world." At present the FEPC is financed from President Roosevelt's Emergency Fund.

"Every citizen should have the right to vote," Murray asserted. "This is not only a colored problem, but it is the problem of all workers. Between 70 and 80 per cent of the nation's voters were disfranchised as a direct result of the poll tax.

It was brought out at the convention that the primary aim of the CIO, as expressed in its constitution, is "to bring about the organization of working men and women of America regardless of race, creed, color or nationality and unite them for common action into labor unions for their mutual aid and protection." At present, approximately one-half million colored workers are members of the CIO.

Full Colored Integration

In line with its policy of equality, the convention unanimously adopted the report of Willard S. Townsend, secretary of the Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination. Townsend, who is the only colored member of the executive board, also presented a resolution on the Fundamental Exclusion Act which called for full integration and democracy for all colored races as well as the Chinese in labor and industry to safeguard the nation from future racial wars. The resolution was passed unanimously.

The racial committee, organized to effect a greater absorption of colored workers into the ranks of industrial workers and labor unions, consists of four colored and three white members. It advises CIO affiliates on questions affecting their racial policies and maintains contact with governmental agencies to insure full participation.

Members Listed

Members are: James B. Carey, white, chairman; Willard S. Townsend, secretary; George Weaver, director; James Leary, white, Shipbuilders Workers; Ferdinand Smith, Maritime Union; Boyd Wilson, Steelworkers; and Walter Hardin, white, of auto workers' union.

Approximately thirty colored delegates attended the convention and were quartered in the city's best hotels along with their white colleagues.

All the officers, last year were re-elected Friday.

Mrs. Roosevelt Speaks

Keynoting the sessions were addressed by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and Vice-President Henry A. Wallace.

Mrs. Roosevelt, who talked to the women's auxiliary at luncheon Wednesday, emphasized the importance and power of a free ballot and praised the adoption of a no-strike, now-work-stoppage resolution.

Vice-President Wallace's speech stressed the importance fo organized labor and urged full participation of every citizen in government.

Unit Move Hailed

Dele praised the recent formation of the "Greater St. Louis Interracial Victory Council, composed of sixty-eight representatives of CIO, AFL and independent unions, as a tribute to the permanent organization of labor' s work for unity."

Fred Smith of NYC, secretary of the National Maritime Union, said: "The CIO has a program of organizing the unorganized. It can neither relinquish this program nor subordinate it to any other because its strength lies in organizing the unorganized."

Several Delegates Active

In addition to Mr. Townsend, other colored delegates participating in the convention included: George Weaver, director of the CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination; Boyd Wilson, Steelworkers; Ferdinand Smith, Maritime Union; Mr. Smith, who is secretary of the National Maritime Union; Louis G. Tarrant, Bessemer, Ala., Mine, Mill and Smelters' Union; Richard Perry, Baltimore, United Galvanized Workers; Richard Carter, Bay City, Mich., member of the executive boarn of the shipbuilning union;

Different Unions

Ernest Thompson, Bayonne, N.J., Hudson County Industrial Union; Ernest Calloway, Chicago, educational director of United Transport Employees; John L. Yancey, Transport Service Employees; Philip Weightman, Chicago, vice-president of United Packing House Workers; and David Coolidge of NYC, Labor Action Newspaper;

Mesdames Elizabeth Tynes Washington, United Federal Workers; Martha Richardson, Washington, United Transport Service Employees; Arie Halliday, Chicago, UTSET; Christian Mosby, NYC., Maritime Union; Florence Wright of the New York UTSEA; Rose Blount of Michigan, United Auto Workers; Christine McIntosh, Philadelphia, Maritime Union; and Alice Nelville, NYC, secretary-treasurer of the National Maritime Union.

CIO Bigwigs Listen to Chief



George P. Weaver, Willard S. Townsend and John L. Yancey (left to right) pay close attention as President Philip Murray addresses the delegates attending the sixth annual convention of the Congress of Industrial Organizations last week at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel in Philadelphia. Townsend is secretary and Weaver director of the CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination. Yancey represents the United Transport Service Employees (redcaps' union).

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

Aviation Officials Praise Racial Harmony in Plant

It Can Even Happen In Detroit:

DETROIT (FP).—While Detroit may have given itself a black eye through the June race riots, it also has developed outstanding examples of racial harmony in war plants, two Negro army aviation officers stationed at nearby Selfridge Field told Federated Press.

First Lieut. George Knox and Second Lieut. Richard A. Harris, one of them a squadron operations officer, visited the plants of the Murray Corp. of America, under jurisdiction of Local 2, United Auto Workers (CIO).

Not only did they go through the plants to see the progress of work on aircraft, but they talked things over in detail with the labor-management committee and checked with its three labor members on what they had seen.

Absence of Friction

The absence of race friction in the Murray plant is due to real preparation and make the new introduction of Negro men and women workers into hitherto white departments, setup run smoothly. In all but a few instances this was done. The exceptions were promptly dealt with and fell in line almost immediately.

The white workers were told by Pres. Lloyd T. Jones of UAW Local 2, United plant," the Negro lieutenants declared. "In its many departments we not only saw workers of both races working together without friction but we actually noted a spirit of mutual respect and helpfulness that makes for improved production.

"Naturally we are delighted to find in Detroit this proof that the no-discrimination program of the United Nations is working with marked success. We are told that similar conditions prevail in many other Detroit plants."

351-1943

Restaurant Workers To Unionize O'Donnells' Grill

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Employees at O'Donnell's well-known E Street Sea Grill, were jubilant today over the decision handed down by David Karasick, trial examiner for the National Labor Relations Board, which found T. A. O'Donnell, proprietor of the Sea Grill, guilty of engaging in unfair labor practices within the meaning of the National Labor Relations Act.

O'Donnell is immediately required by this decision to "cease and desist" from his anti-Union activities and to reinstate William Alexander Jr. Jones, and Albe[illegible]ington in their former positions with full back pay.

These persons were discharged in violation of the Wagner Act for organizing their fellow workers into the United Cafeteria and Restaurant Workers Local 471, UFWA—CIO.

Terming this decision "a great victory for all food workers", Union officials declared at their new headquarters at 1015 M Street, Northwest that "low wages, miserable working conditions and insecurity must go. The campaign to win CIO representation for the employees at O'Donnell's and other restaurants now goes into high speed.

The testimony of co[illegible]y employees was completely discredited while the stories of the discharged employees checked in every detail. As a result O'Donnell must "Post immediately in conspicuous places throughout the Sea Grill, and maintain for a period of 60 consecutive days from the date of posting, notices to the employees stating:"

(1) that he will "cease and desist" from his discouraging membership in the CIO Cafeteria and Restaurant Workers Union by discharging or refusing to reinstate any of his employees in the exercise of the right of self-organization, to form, join or assist labor organizations.

(2) that he will offer reinstatement to all employees discharged for Union activity and make up any losses in pay they suffered including tips, transportation and room and board expenses.

(3) that his employees are free to remain or become members of United Cafeteria and Restaurant Workers [illegible] 471, and that he will not discriminate against any employee because of his membership or activity in that organization.

Switch CIO Defender Parley--Hit Color Bar

Chicago, Ill.

WASHINGTON (ANP)—Having apparently overcome the prejudice against Negroes in the hotels of Philadelphia, at least temporarily, the Congress for Industrial Organizations will hold its annual convention in the City of Brotherly Love during the first week in November.

James B. Carey, secretary-treasurer for the CIO, indicated Saturday that the racial attitude of the hotels in St. Louis had prompted them to look elsewhere for accommodations.

From another source it is learned that the decision to switch will cost the CIO about $400 a day extra in view of the fact that auditorium facilities will not be given to them as has been the case heretofore in other cities. The sessions will be held in the Bellevue-Stratford hotel, but the managements of several other hostelries have been checked and have promised to conform to the non-discriminatory pattern.

At last year's convention in Boston about 12 Negro delegates attended. About 650 delegates in all were in attendance.

CIO

Win Fight Upsets Ruling Of Board On "Red Caps"

Norfolk, Virginia
Journal and Guide

Unions Which Bar Workers Cannot Represent Them

WASHINGTON, D. C.—One of the most significant and history making decisions affecting the whole, well-planned structure of collusions between railroad management and railroad brotherhoods in d[illegible] Negroes their rights under the Railway Labor Act, was made last week by the United States Circuit Court of Appeals in a case involving the United Transport Service Employees of America, CIO, the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, AFL, and the National Mediation Board.

UPHOLDS DISTRICT COURT

he U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the recent decision of the U. S. District Court that set aside a ruling of the National Mediaiton Board which had extended to the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks the authority to bargain collectively for a group of railroad porters despite the fact that they were barred from membership in the clerks union because of race and had overwhelmingly selected the UTSEA-CIO as their own bargaining representative.

The circuit court upheld the deci[illegible] setting aside the oard's "untenable and arbitrary" ruling and ordered this federal agency to proceed to certify the UTSEA-CIO as the collective bargaining agency for these employees.

The decision was rendered by Chief Justice C. J. Groner of the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals, who minced no words in supporting the contention of UTSEA-CIO's attorneys George E. C. Hayes, Judge James A. Cobb and Perry Howard.

CHIEF JUSAICE GRONER

Chief Justice Groner stated, "The purpose of the Act (Railway Labor Act), as is apparent on its face . . . is to ensure freedom of choice in the selection of representatives . . . Nothing in the Act nor in its construction by the courts can be found to justify such coercive action as to force upon any class of employees representation through an agency with whom it has no affiliation nor right of association.

"It is, therefore, of no consequence that the porters were at one time dependent upon the brotherhood as their spokesmen with the railroad, for that never was a trusteeship of their own making. To perpetuate it by law would be to impose a tyranny in many respects analagous to 'taxation without representation.'

"And if anything is certain, it is that the Congress in passing the Act never for a moment dreamed that it would be construed to diminish the right of any citizen to follow a lawful vocation on the same or equal terms with his neighbors. In this view, to enforce the Board's decision would be contrary to both the word and spirit of our laws."

UNION HEAD COMMENTS

President Willard S. Townsend of the UTSEA in commenting upon the far-reaching affects of this decision declared:

"This decision of th[illegible] court is indicati[illegible] of the changes taking place [illegible] railroad industry as a result of intelligent organized pressure. This decision more than any other action taken in behalf of Negro railroad workers, flanks the proponents of job discrimination and opens the flood gates for a successful offensive against the forces that seek to eliminate the Negro from the railroad industry."

SUIT FILED IN 1941

The decision resulted from a suit filed in 1941 by the UTSEA-CIO against the St. Paul Union Terminal, the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks and the National Mediation Board after the board had arbitrarily certified the clerks union without an election as the collective bargaining agency for the 45 station employees of the St. Paul Terminal. This was done over the repeated protests of the UTSEA who had been designated by the employees as their free choice.

CASE BITTERLY FOUGHT

With the institution of court proceedings against the brotherhood and the board, the UTSEA set out to challenge the whole structure and legality of arbitrary "scope" agreements made between railroad management and the brotherhoods covering many crafts and classes of employment and under which a large number of Negro railroad employees were denied a voice in the operation of the agreements.

For more than three years this case has been bitterly fought before federal agencies, boards and the courts. Since its beginning the case has held the attention of every railroad labor organization and many sections of management because of its significant nature and challenge to the status quo of discriminating maagement-brotherhood policies in reference to Negro labor.

The "scope" agreement practice is one of the major devices projected by the brotherhoods in the railroad industry which operates unfavorably to thousands of Negro railroad workers who are not permitted to join these unions because of race, and in far too many cases have been forced out of the industry by the job and seniority control mechanisms in many of these "scope" agreements.

In the course of his opinion Chief Justice Groner said:

"The effect of the action of the board is to force this particular group of employees to accept representation by an organization in which it has no right to membership, nor right to speak or be heard in its own behalf. This obviously is wrong and, if assented to, would create an intolerable situation.

"That the rules of the brotherhood make Negroes ineligible to membership is not a matter which concerns us, but that the brotherhood, in combination with the employer, should force on these men this proscription and at the same time insist that brotherhood alone is entitled to speak for them in the regulation of their hours of work, rates of pay and the redress of their grievances is so inadmissible, so palpably unjust and so opposed to the primary principles of the act as to make the Board's decision upholding it wholly untenable and arbitrary.

"The purpose of the act, as is apparent on its face, and as has been recognized and confirmed by the Supreme court and this court in many decisions, is to insure freedom of choice in the selection of representatives.

"While it is true that this purpose has been held to yield, when necessary, in the interest of uniformity of classification in accordance with established custom, nothing in the act nor in its construction by the courts can be found to justify such coercive action as to force upon any class of employees representation through an agency with whom it has no affiliation nor right of association.

"It is, therefore, of no consequence that the porters were at one time dependent upon brotherhood as their spokesman with the railroad, for that never was a trusteeship of their own making.. To perpetuate it by law would be to impose tyranny in many respects analagous to "taxation without representation."

"And if anything is certain, it is that the Congress in passing the Act never for a moment dreamed that it would be construed to diminish the right of any citizen to follow a lawful vocation on the same or equal terms with his neighbor. In this view, to enforce the Board's decision would be contrary to both the word and spirit of our laws.

First Negro Named Union Co-Manager

Norfolk, Va.
Journal & Guide

NEW YORK, N. Y., (ANP) Walter [illegible] who attended Blue-[illegible]ers. Joint Board.
Former assistant manager, [illegible]field State College, West Va...
Noah C. A. Walter was named [illegible]and St. Paul's Polytechnic In-
co-manager of the Laundry[illegible]stitute, Virginia, has been an
Workers Joint Board, at a [illegible]integral part of the New York
meeting [illegible]labor movement in the City
[illegible]leadership in the organized la-
[illegible] City for more than 10 years.
He was among a small pioneer group in 1937 who successfully established the Progressive Laundry Workers Organization known as the [illegible]

Michael Carter Presents

The Other Side of Ford's

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
SEP 18 1943

By MICHAEL CARTER

Until the CIO protested, the Ford Motor Company operated a jim crow hiring system. Under the old system a colored person who wanted to get a job at Ford's stood in an all-colored line and was interviewed by a colored personnel man.

This jim crow department, formerly run by Willis Ward and later by Jesse Owens, has now been abolished. Willis Ward's wife, Mrs. Alma Ward, has been given a job in the Sociological Department. She works with Walton Lewis also colored.

The sociological office does case work among colored employees, conducts investigations, and recommends the hiring of certain workers.

Although colored workers say they got better breaks under the jim crow set up, none of them is sorry that Willis Ward is gone. Ward was drafted at just about the time the office was smashed.

More than one worker told me, "Willis Ward was the only man in the world who could get you bread for your table and make you hate him. He abused people who applied for work, screamed at them and made them feel like cheap dogs.

Say Job Hurt Him

"Civilization, and his job at Ford's, had a devastating affect on him."

Other workers said that if Ward had been white "We should have called him anti-colored. He was always friendly to the white people, but acted like he hated us."

Ward's induction into the army was followed by the transfer of Jesse Owens to the employment office.

The men loved Jesse Owens, and threatened to strike when he was fired as a result of what appears to have been malicious gossip.

Owens Well Liked

I was unable to reach Owens during my week in Detriot. Responsible colored people told me that Owens had placed colored men in jobs they had never before held.

They also said that Owens "talked up for the colored workers and was not scared of the white people. The colored people out there now seem to be afraid to assert the rights which go along with their jobs. If Henry Ford knew what was going on he'd change things."

The latter is the general attitude of colored workers toward Ford's. They feel that no matter what happens, it would be corrected if Henry Ford were only aware of it.

Ford Final Word

They look upon Ford as the final word in racial fairness. Ford certainly broke precedent in hiring colored men, and the people in Detroit remember this and are loyal to Ford.

Gloster Current, NAACP spokesman, calls the colored man who works at Ford's "an emancipated individual."

"The colored worker," Current said, "no longer looks at issues as being purely race problems. He sees things in a much larger sense."

This partially explains the colored workers' voiced loyalty to Ford's, and explains why colored workers did not completely join in the recent strike for union recognition.

Strikes "Threatened"

It does not explain why colored workers are now devout union men nor does it explain why they are so prone to strike now. Colored workers will threaten strike at the drop of a hat.

When Jesse Owens was fired they threatened to strike, and at about the time when a colored man killed a white foreman, they struck. About 200 colored workers were fired for "misconduct" and another threat was brewing.

General problems of colored workers are thrashed out in the sociological department. This department solves some tough problems. One of them I heard was: A colored man accused his wife of accepting favors from and "making eyes" at a foreman.

Promised to Be Good

The woman, who had been fired, promised her husband that she would be good and wanted to get back her job.

It was decided that her reemployment was inadvisable.

A major problem has been the conduct of some colored workers. Many of them seem to have been obstrepterous.

Absenteeism a Problem

Another problem, not directly concerned with the social service department, is absenteeism.

A graph showing the frequency absenteeism also showed [illegible] implication, where most colored workers were employed.

The New Steel Building, which is almost all colored, showed a peak of absences just after every pay day. The workers generally said they were "sick." Such post-pay day sicknesses did appear to be the rule among white workers.

Mum About Conduct

Conduct of colored employees seems to be a genuine problem at the plant. No one in the sociological department wanted to discuss that with me. They would discuss garnishments, though. It seems that out of seventeen garnisheeing actions taken in one very short period, fifteen were colored.

Back in Detroit, I learned about disorderliness among colored workers.

One worker, who would be fired if the AFRO named him, said: "The cause of our conduct problem is poverty. These jitterbug kids we hired in the foundry are unaccustomed to discipline.

"They grew up in homes that subsisted on relief allowances. They lost respect for their parents; they had never worked before this, and worked only because they wanted 'big money.'

"Some of us thought they would be easier handled if we had more colored foremen. In New Steel there are about thirty-eight colored foremen and two colored general foremen.

"The white foremen outnumber the colored, but colored workers outnumber the whites. We needed more colored foremen, but they solved the problem by firing about 200 of the colored boys."

Throughout the Ford plant at Dearborn and back in Paradise Valley at the 666 Club, and the Paradise Bowl, you will hear gossip about scandals at Ford's.

The stories concern Uncle Tom colored people, the sharp class distinctions between salaried colored people, who wear stars on their badges, and the colored wage earner.

Unlike most dirty fingered gossip which pokes at many people with wild disconnected gibes, this gossip was channelized.

All the people I talked to, many of them white collar workers at Ford's, as well as mill workers, agreed on one thing: They were glad that Willis Ward was out.

Some of these people were personal friends of the Willis Ward faction. Many of them got their jobs through his office but to a man they said:

"Willis Ward is the only man in the world who can give you a job and then make you hate him."

Call Owens Fair

To a man they agreed that Jesse Owens was fair and courageous. Colored workers respected him and expected a fair deal from him.

More than one worker said, "When we used to go to the old employment office the [all-colored office], we were belligerent, I guess. But that was a protective covering. We knew what to expect. Ward was abusive, cruel and inconsiderate. If he had not been colored I'd have called him an anti-race man."

Close to Bennett

Ward appears to have been close to Harry Bennett, personnel director for the plant, and even though he is no longer employed at the plant, his influence is still felt.

On Bennett, who practically runs Ford's, informed colored workers say, "We don't know much about him. We do know that he is surrounded by anti-race men, and that Willis Ward was mighty close to him."

Other workers say, "When that man Wagner, the foreman who was killed by a colored man, got his, tension at [illegible] place rose to a new peak.

"There were many college educated colored men pouring steel in the foundry. They could not get promoted even though college men were needed.

Now Employs All

"The new Aircraft Building would only employ colored men as sweepers, and up-grading in some departments was impossible. Since Owens, all departments employ colored men and women. We were in real distress. We wanted to get to Henry Ford to tell him, but we could not."

At about this time Jesse Owens, who was then in charge of colored employment, went about the plant listing colored men who were qualified for better jobs. He placed them and they have made good.

Another colored faction, fearful of Owens's growing popularity with the men, carried vile stories about him to Bennett.

Carriers of these tales said that Owens had been married more than once, that they did not like his sex life, and that white women came into the employment office asking to see "Jesse Owens, the runner." This indicated that Owens could work with either race.

The delegation bearing these stories visited Harry Bennett on May 26, 1943. Jesse Owens was fired 7 days later. The department, which had been protested by the union as jim crow, was abolished, and the colored workers in it were placed in sociological service.

When Bennett learned the truth, Owens was placed on another job. He was never off the payroll, but he had been fired. Owens's new job is a complete mystery.

Ordinarily it makes little difference how a newspaperman gets his material, in this instance the method was as interesting as the story.

Informant White

The person who told me the story is white. If the AFRO called his name, he says, he would be fired. I believe it.

My informant and I met when I was returning from the plant. We arranged for a talk. I secured a room in a hotel near Detroit and the man came to see me.

We checked the other rooms on the floor and ascertained as much as we could about their occupants. When we heard footsteps in the corridor, we hushed our voices. We were as careful as democratic spies in Germany.

Story Checks Okey

We left the building at different times and I never saw him again. I checked all the parts of his story and found that every one "in the know agrees" with them.

Shortly before I left Detroit the man called me and begged that his name be kept secret. "All of us out here are scared of our jobs. Some of the people here will kill each other for their $315-a-month jobs (salary paid to a colored labor relations man, although whites are reported to earn more), or their $250 in the sociological service.

"Please leave my name out and strike out [illegible] information which I alone could have had."

FEPC Gets Evidence on Ford Motor Bias

DETROIT — (ANP) — Documentary evidence was presented to the FEPC last week by L. A. Jordan, recently elected recording secretary of Local 50, showing that the Ford Motor Company is violating the President's directive to industry to stop discriminating against colored workers. The complaint of Jordan follows closely similar charges made several weeks ago against the automotive concern.

Willis Ward, former personnel head, is "the only man who could give you a job and make you hate him."

Jesse Owens, who replaced Ward, and who was called fair and courageous, was fired because of vile stories about his personal life.

Absenteeism is high among colored workers, especially after pay day.

Conduct of young "jitterbug workers" is a genuine problem.

Owens is responsible for the present policy in which all departments hire colored men and women.

Workers look to Henry Ford as the final word in racial fairness.

Colored workers will threaten a strike "at the drop of a hat."

35i-1943

WASTED MANPOWER

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.
SEP 11 1943

By ALBERT BLACK

ORGANIZED LABOR ONLY SALVATION

Nothing is denied to well directed labor; nothing is ever to be attained without it.
—Sir Joshua Reynolds.

SEP 11 1943

The questions that I have heard quite often from non-union workers who enter the gates of the Sun Ship Company have been like this: "Why should I join a Union?" "This country is at war; what can a Union do for me?"



BLACK

SEP 11 1943

It is quite obvious that workers who make such remarks do not realize that the war will come to an end one day and when thhat eventful day arrives, an $80, $90 and $100 weekly paycheck will be but a memory. It may be that these workers are forgetting that organized labor is gaining new strength daily. The post-war period should be the thought on every worker's mind and not so much what he is making today. What part will I play in the future of American Industry? Will he have a job? Will he be among those unemployed?

It is easy to undersand why John Pew fought so hard to keep organized labor out of Sun Ship. As a result of the CIO winning the election, and therefore becoming the bargaining agent for the workers at Sun Ship, there will be higher wages in many crafts, improved safety conditions and in general be a reformed set-up that will include all working conditions for all workers regardless of skill or trade.

SEP 11 1943

It is natural to assume that the tremendous profits that John Pew and family have been pocketing for years out of the sweat and blood of the workers, will be cut down because the worker will now receive some of those profits that he (the worker) earned in the form of the above mentioned improvements.

SEP

The advantages of organized labor do not just stop at better working conditions. Organized labor can demand a greater number of housing projects, the roll back of prices, the passage of the Anti-Poll Tax Biii.

Organized labor can eliminate such American Fascists as Rankin, Dies, Cox, Bilbo and Connally, who would rather waste democracy's time that pass the Anti-Poll-Tax Bill. Organized Labor will be able to eliminate such un-American organizations as the Klu Klux Klan. Organized labore can demand the government to eliminate its policy of jim crow in the armed forces.

Organied labor, when strong enough, can demand and get A FULL AND EQUAL PARTICIPATION IN ALL THE BURDENS, CROSSES AND AND CRISES AND A SHARE OF ALL THE JOYS, RESPONSIBILITIES AND CROWNS OF DEMOCRACY.

To the colored workers, the CIO has an "open door policy." The CIO has forced prejudiced whites to work with colored workers in Detroit. The CIO has pleaded with its workers in Mobile and Beaumont to cease their rioting. The CIO, through organized labor, has done more to advance the colored man economically than any force to appear on the American industrial scene.

SEP 1943

CIO

Put This in Your Pipe and Smoke It

DEC 26 1943

The Worker
New York, N. Y

(Special to The Worker)

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.—You may not notice it when you inhale on a Camel cigaret, but through Camels a new breath of life is sweeping through the South.

That is true because the CIO has just won a victory in a National Labor Relations Board election at the Reynolds Tobacco Co. plants here.

Sole bargaining agent at the plants, which employ both Negro and white, is the progressively-led United Cannery, Packing, Agricultural and Allied Workers (UCAPAWA) Union, which stands four-square for a policy of no discrimination and which conducted its campaign at Reynolds on that basis.

8,000 NEGROES

Eight thousand of the 12,000 workers employed at Reynolds are Negroes. The election thus brings into action behind CIO policies the greatest single body of Negro workers in the deep South and starts a movement which brings promise of organization to tens of thousands of other southern tobacco workers.

UCAPAWA had to fight in the courts as well as in the National Labor Relations Board to get the election actually held.

Twice the NLRB had set election dates and twice management was able to get postponements, using a company-dominated Reynolds Employes Association to sue for an injunction.

As early as Aug. 3, the union had already demonstrated that it represented a majority of the Camel workers when it received 6,427 votes of 9,654 cast. This was not decisive, however, because workers were divided into two units and no group received a majority in the second and larger unit.

Later, the NLRB ruled that workers should vote as one body. It was at that point that the Reynolds Employes Association sprang into existence and petitioned for injunctions postponing the elections.

69 PER CENT GO CIO

The victory was finally achieved when a poll was held Dec. 15 and 16. A total of 10,532 votes were cast. Sixty-nine per cent voted for the CIO.

Thirteen thousand leaf tobacco workers in Winston Salem have been represented by the CIO union since contracts were signed last October. They are employed by the Export Leaf, Winston Leaf and Piedmont Leaf Companies.

Recently, the same union negotiated the first CIO contract covering both Negro and white workers in Charleston, S. C., the home of Rep. Ellison (Cotton Ed) Smith. The contract covers nearly 2,000 employes of the American Tobacco Company's cigar factory.

In addition to producing Camels, the Reynolds plants produces the equally famous Prince Albert smoking tobacco and the following other brands: George Washington, Stud and Advertising Smoking Tobaccos, Apple Sun-Cured, Day's-Work, Big Apple, Brown Mule, Mickey Twist Honey-Cutt, Black Horse, Sweep Stake and Figs Chewing Tobacco.

Pretty soon it'll be CIO-made and you can put that in your pipe and smoke it.

Bee (illegible)

The Historic CIO Meet.

LAST week, the 600 Congress of Industrial Organization delegates, representing 5,285,000 members, a million of whom were acquired during the last year, led a powerful frontal offensive against the forces of reaction. It was truly a people's anti-fascist convention, for ALL of the people were included in the statesmanlike agenda and the resolutions stemming therefrom

Chicago. Ill.

Negroes and other minorities are really moving forces in the CIO. Stifling racism is virtually alien to the practices of the CIO. It went on record to fight for greater power for the FEPC by congressional action; the repeal of the Chinese Exclusion Act; the enactment of the anti-poll tax law, to mention only a few resolutions.

On the executive board, among others, is that great labor statesman, Willard S. Townsend, international president (CIO) UTSEA, who insisted on full democracy for Negro labor. The forthright intelligent understanding, evinced by Townsend, of labor's interests and problems doubtless paved the way for other high Negro officials in the CIO such as Phil Weightman, international vice president of the CIO United Packinghouse Workers Union.

The President's wage stabilization program was soundly thumped by CIO's president, Phil Murray, but the real recalcitrance was directed not at the President but Congress for failure to support an intelligent subsidy program to prevent substandard living conditions. This was a needed reproval.

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Nothing was largely stressed as the no strike pledge and the winning of a people's peace. We are happy that such a powerful, liberal organization as the CIO, though, while primarily preoccupied with its own problems, still realizes the great part that it must play in not only winning the war but making the peace REAL and lasting.

Murray Promises Continued Fight On Bias At CIO Meet

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

By WILLIAM G. NUNN, Managing Editor

PHILADELPHIA—Delegates from all sections of the country, here for the Sixth Constitutional Convention of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, packed the auditorium of Bellevue-Stratford hotel Monday, and cheered Philip Murray, CIO president, as he promised a continued fight on the part of the powerful labor movement to eliminate racial discrimination from our nation.

Calling for the most important work of the convention, in the form of a resolution, the armed services or in industry or in organization, delegates are expected to thrash out two big questions which affect Negroes.

DELEGATES WILL VOTE ON BIAS COMMITTEE

The delegation, more than like[illegible] will be asked to decide whether

nish the greatest assurance and the prime bulwark for the complete destruction of racial discrimination. It has been and shall continue to be the obligation of the CIO to eliminate from our national life racial discrimination."

Speaking of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, President Murray told the delegates that "Two years of practical experience in dealing with problems of discrimination in employment on grounds of race, creed, color and national origin by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, prove that these undemocratic and socially destructive practices can be controlled if approached with skill and honesty . . . The Committee will probably be compelled to go before Congress next spring for a renewal of its authority and for further appropriations. It seems important, therefore, that the committee be reconstituted next year as a permanent statutory agency empowered to prevent discrimination of the kinds now being dealt with by the committee, and financed by direct Congressional appropriation."

Winston-Salem Tobacco Plants Sign With CIO

Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — Tobacco workers here have made this a red-letter month with the signing of the first three CIO contracts, making for substantial improvement in working conditions and pay. These contracts are the result of the Tobacco Workers' Organizing committee (UCAPAWA) drive, which involves a total of some 13,000 tobacco workers in the city.

The contracts, signed by the Export, Winston and Piedmont leaf companies, all ask for a 55-cent minimum with proportionate increases in other job classifications, which will be decided by the Warlast Labor Board. At Export Leaf, the contract provides for a union shop and check-off; the other two plants won maintenance of membership and dues check-off.

Labor Tangles

Informer, Houston

By CARTER WESLEY

C. W. Rice, publisher of the Negro Labor News, has been putting out some jumbled arguments and seemingly working to keep tension between laborers and the community generally. In one editorial he argues that the riots in Detroit, Beaumont and Indiana were all in plants where the CIO had organized, and blames them on the CIO's policy of no discrimination.

The facts that we have contradict his premise. In Detroit the riot did not start on anybody's work and was not primarily a workers' fight, but started on the streets and in parks because of the general tension due to housing and other problems. In Beaumont the records show that a woman precipitated the riot by a fallacious story of a Negro raping her. It is generally accepted that the workers from the Pennsylvania shipyards took a leading part in the riot after it started, but the riot is not claimed to have started among the Pennsylvania workers. Mr. Rice also says that the CIO has organized the Pennsylvania shipyards. We understand that the A. F. of L. has a contract in the Pennsylvania shipyards and that no CIO organizer has been to the Pennsylvania shipyards in the last six months. Incidentally, we are informed that the FBI did not find a single CIO worker involved in the riot in Beaumont. We have no information about the Indiana riot, and though we usually doubt anything Mr. Rice says, for the benefit of argument we will let his charge on that one stand.

Information Wrong

But two of his three instances where the CIO was the cause of a riot according to our information are wrong. That leaves him violating the first principles of logic by attempting to generalize from one experience.

The burden of Mr. Rice's argument is that the CIO's policy of no discrimination is hurting the labor movement in the South and should be stopped. That is a rather peculiar argument for any Negro leader to make. Day in and day out Negro leaders are asking for no discrimination in work, and yet when an organization practices it, a so-called Negro labor leader condemns the practice on the ground that it isn't expedient. Such an argument is calculated to win favor with employers, who have long sought to divide white and Negro laborers to keep wages down; but it isn't likely to win favor with Negroes.

The Informer believes that there is no justification in reason, public safety, Christianity, democracy, or plain justice in discrimination in work or jobs. It is because of that belief that The Informer appreciates the CIO's policy of no discrimination. A Negro labor leader has gotten himself in a pretty sorry plight when he has to fight an organization that is practicing no discrimination against his race to make a living.

We notice that the CIO in Beaumont is trying to organize the Magnolia Oil Refining Company, and true to custom Mr. Rice, publisher of the News, is gadding around in Beaumont in opposition to the CIO's efforts. It is the same pattern that obtained in Houston in the Hughes Tool, when Mr. Rice got his wings pinned back by a CIO victory in that company. It is the same pattern that obtained in Port Arthur, when the CIO was organizing the Gulf Refinery and Mr. Rice established a headquarters there to fight the CIO, and got his wings pinned by a victory of the CIO. The men of Beaumont are not less wise than Negro men in the Hughes Tool Company at Houston and the Magnolia at Port Arthur, and we can be sure when the votes are counted the men at Beaumont will have casted their votes for no discrimination in work, as Negroes have done in both Port Arthur and the Hughes Tool Company.

Report 7,000 Colored Men to Quit CIO Ship Unions

Baltimore Afro-American

Say Democratic Policies of National Body Flouted by Officials of Locals 43 and 33

By MAX JOHNSON

BALTIMORE

Persistent rumors reached the AFRO this week that an organized movement is underway, seeking the wholesale withdrawal of some 7,000 colored workers from CIO unions in two of the larger shipbuilding plants here because of dissatisfaction with present policies of the organizations.

The unions involved are Locals 43 and 33 of the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America.

The former is established at the Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipbuilding Company in Fairfield with 6,000 colored members, while the latter local is at the Bethlehem Steel Company's shipyard at Sparrows Point, Md., and has some 800 colored members.

Overall complaint of the workers, as given the AFRO, is that present officials of the two locals are not following the democratic policy of the CIO with respect to the handling of grievances and working to the advantage of colored and white members alike.

It is said that plans are to petition the War Labor Board and the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee for permission to withdraw from the unions on the basis of this alleged discrimination.

Colored members pay dues to the two locals totaling approximately $8,750 monthly or $105,000 annually, according to reported memberships.

Local 43 has two colored officials, Thomas Aydlett, organizer, and Frank Merchant, assistant business agent.

Aydlett said he was aware of the dissatisfaction among the colored members of his union.

"Our union works for the common good of all of its members," Mr. Aydlett said he was aware of increasing unrest among members of his race at the Fairfield shipyards and had heard some of the complaints of the colored union members at that time complained to the AFRO officials of that organization were anti-colored and did nothing to help their lot in the union.

Those involved in the proposed withdrawal movement from the shipyard unions said they are taking this step because the overwhelming number of white non-liberals in the organization prevents removing officials from office by democratic means.

They accused the national officials of the organization with refusing to take a firm stand in enforcing the CIO's democratic policies of non-discrimination toward members of both races.

Unless favorable action is taken immediately by the two locals, the petitions are to be readied within the coming week, it is said.

Scene of Near Riot

It was at the Sparrows Point shipyards and had heard some

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CIO

A Milestone In Labor's Progress:

Union Officers Discuss Plans For Labor in Post-War World

New York, N. Y. Peoples Voice

"Labor's state in a post-war America will be determined by its work today," declared International President Willard S. Towsend of the United Transport Service Employees Union, CIO, as he opened the two-day regional conference of local union officers of the Atlantic Seaboard, here last Wednesday.

President Towsend, who is a member of the governing body of the CIO, pointed out that labor's role today is one of exercising greater community responsibility than in any period of its history. He saw the conference a sa new m[illegible] in the progress of the un[illegible]

The conference dealt with educational and legislative matters. Participating in Friday's panel discussion were Assemblyman William T. Andrews; Dr. Warren Banner, research director, Urban League; Noah Walters, of the Laundery Workers Union; Lucile Kohn, American Labor Educational Service; and J. L. Yancy, international sect. and Ernest Calloway, educational director of the UTSEU.

Preparing for Elections

Wednesday's and Thursday's conference was one of a series the UTSEU is calling in line with the general program of the CIO to strengthen labor's participation in political activities. The CIO has recently set up a political action committee headed by Sidney Hillman of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, preparing for the 1944 elections.

It was pointed out that labor took a terrible beating from the southern bloc of poll taxers aided by reactionary northern Republicans during the last session of Congress. The Smith-Connally Bill, which attempted to destroy labor's right to strike was put through. The Ruml tax plan which forgave 75 per cent of big business income taxes and through the tax burden on the lower income groups was passed.

One of labor's worst complaints is that Congress failed to roll back prices to the Sept. 1, 1942 level where they would be in line with the 15 per cent limitation in wage increase placed on labor. This situation was aggravated by the cutting of the OPA appropriation that might have enforced ceiling prices.

1944 Congress' Importance

Conference discussions brought out labor's decision to vote these men out of office who were responsible for its setback. The 1944 Congress will be the most strategic legislative body since the Civil War. It will carry the tremendous responsibility of making post war a[illegible]ments such as rehabilitating 13,000,000 job seekers back from the war, and creating machinery for international cooperation in realizing some practical application of the Four Freedoms.

There are 12,000 members in the UTSEU which is a federation of Red Caps; Dining Car Employees; Pullman Laundry Workers; Pullman Repair Shop Workers, Train Por[illegible], Airline Service Employ[illegible]

Last Friday negotiations were concluded with the LaGuardia Air Port; the Pan American Air Lines and The Export Airline.

On the panel the following points were stressed:

- Dr. Banner stressed the need for fuller and closer cooperation of community organizations with labor since [illegible] has proved to be an isolated [illegible] and has identified itself with the broader problems of the community.
- Miss Kohn talked of the contribution workers' education can make in developing the political consciousness of labor.
- Noah Walters, outlined program of the C[illegible] Political Action Committee.
- Congressman Andrews explained the practical aspects of lining up the voter.

Canners Union Disavows Jimcro Ad of Company

People's Voice New York, N. Y. OCT 23 1943

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 8—"The policy of our Union and the entire CIO is that there shall be no discrimnation against any worker, regardless of race, color or creed," wrote International Representative Carmen Parente, of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America (CIO) in a letter to the Lummis Peanut Company, which is under contract with UCAPAWA Local 186.

The letter was sent in protest against an advertisement placed by the peanut company in the *Philadelphia Evening Bulletin* of Sept. 23, calling for "white girls" to apply for jobs at the plant.

This ad no longer disgraces the columns of the Bulletin. On Oct. 4, a few days after he had written to the company, Parente received a reply.

"We will discontinue indicating race or color in our ad in the future," the company's letter assured.

Union Challenges Demotion Of Five Negro Workers

People's Voice New York, N. Y. AUG 28

WASHINGTON.—The defense of Coast and Geodetic Survey officials against charges of discrimination against five Negro draftsmen was challenged last week by the Commerce Branch of United Federal Workers Local 1 (CIO).

Appearing before Elmer W. Henderson, investigator for the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, Oliver C. Short, Director of Personnel for the Department of Commerce, Admiral Leo O. Colbert, Director of the Coast and Geodetic Survey, and other officials stated that the demotion of five Negro draftsmen to messenger work was the result of a policy of demoting and separating employees who showed no progress in advancing from simple to more complex drafting work.

Robert Sherman, President of the UFWA Commerce Branch formally challenged every point of defense raised by the Bureau officials. In a letter to George M. Johnson, Assistant to the Chairman of FEPC, Sherman disputed the statements of the officials and called for an open hearing on the case.

THE LIVING SOUTH

Defender
Chicago, Ill

By HAROLD PREECE

Winston-Salem SOS

"IT TAKES 13 months a year to produce tobacco." That's what the South's tobacco workers and farmers tell you about the weed which buys Dorie Duke a husband and a divorce.

It takes 13 months to make a camel cigarette from the time that you start fooling with the weed in the ground till the time you cure it and the time that it rolls off the line from the giant plants of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco company down in Winston-Salem.

But it only takes a couple of hours with a tobacco-controlled district judge and a few lunches for a few snivelling stooges to delay the democratic action of Negro and white workers who want the tobacco business to grow up from a sweat shop industry into an American industry.

Tobacco is hard growing and tobacco is hard times for these people who have been among the most oppressed and underpaid of all American workers. The time has come for change in the tobacco industry as the time has come for change in the waiting, impatient South.

As I write this, the South's whole fight for democracy is being tested by what may happen at Winston-Salem where that great expression of Southern democracy, the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers is desperately fighting to enforce the National Labor Relations Act guaranteeing workers the right to organize.

This CIO union has the majority of the Reynolds workers signed up in the union. Now the Uncle Tom company union, led by a few unprincipled traitors of both races, has gone into court and secured an injunction which prevented the holding of a scheduled labor board election last week to determine the collective bargaining agent of the tobacco workers.

Already the CIO had won one election last summer, won it by an overwhelming majority. But certain technicalities required the calling of another election which would have been won, hands down again, by the CIO.

Tobacco Tactics

THE TACTICS of the tobacco trust is as plain as the nose on Doris Duke's face . . . if you can't beat your opponents in a fair and square election, then go to court and try to beat back democracy with a piece of paper signed by a man whose judicial ermine happens to be stained with tobacco. That man is Superior Judge F. Donald Phillips of Forsyth County.

Well, friends, labor injunctions don't always stand even if it costs the union time, money, and energy in further lawsuits. W. M. Aicher, regional director of the National Labor Relations Board, has said that the North Carolina state court has no jurisdiction but that the board is obeying the injunction in order to prevent trouble.

The injunction isn't the worst part of it, however. For the company has now pulled the time honored trick of Dixie's fat-bellied masters against unions of working people.

It is harping on the race issue but using a slightly different slant. It is accusing the CIO of arousing racial feeling because it is organizing Negro workers into a strong organization which will give them the chance to live in homes instead of shanties, to send their children through high school instead of feeding them while they are still children to the grinding wheels of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco company.

This from an outfit which, in the past, has specialized in keeping Negro workers and white workers hating each other. It's a new tune to the old song that you are "stirring up the n—rs" if you demand that your colored fellow-American can be given a few of the privileges of the democracy which his son may be dying for in Italy or New Guinea.

Race-Baiting

THE COMPANY has opened a campaign, full of this kind of lopsided race-baiting, in Winston-Salem's daily newspaper. It has formed what it calls a "Citizens Emergency Committee" composed of 25 whites who are mostly business men and a few Negro stooges who would sell their people for a dime a head to put fifteen cents into their own pockets.

I'm writing this between busses as an SOS call for the tobacco workers of Winston-Salem. I have the time and the space to give only the highlights but anybody who wants full particulars can get them by writing the Tobacco Workers Organizing Committee, 727 First National Bank Building, Winston-Salem, N. C.

I've just finished talking with Jim Dombrowski, secretary of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare in Nashville, to see what can be done to back up our brothers and sisters of both colors in Winston-Salem. Since this is the No. 1 fight on the Southern home front just now, I'm hopping the bus into Birmingham to see what can be done in that big town to help the tobacco workers.

Jim showed me copies of letters that the Southern Conference had gotten prominent Southerners to send to the union, publicly expressing their support of the CIO in this grim showdown and publicly condemning the company for injecting the Nazi race issue into something which might have been settled if the tobacco bosses had shown a speck of fairness. I saw letters from Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, from Dean Fleming James of the University of the South, and from other outstanding Southern leaders whose fine patriotism is measured by their deep interest in the problems of the South's people.

I'm plugging for democracy in the South and democracy in America when I ask my readers to spend a three-cent stamp and let the union know that decent Americans are standing behind it. Those letters will be read to the tobacco workers, and help them to win a victory which will be celebrated from Virginia to Oklahoma.

Defender
Chicago, Ill

By S. I. HAYAKAWA

Chat With Willard Townsend

THE OTHER DAY Mr. Willard Townsend, president of the United Transport Service Employes Union and member of the CIO executive board, told me that, having come across a Saturday Evening Post article that referred to Pullman porters as "darkeys," he wrote a strenuous letter of protest. From that, we got to a discussion of the question: is it worth while to take time out from one's business in order to write such letters of protest?



S. I. Hayakawa

So I told him a story from my own experience about a Japanese gentleman, I once knew who was approached by a white stranger who said, in quite a friendly way, "Have you **boys** got your tickets?" Said Japanese gentleman lost his temper faster than I ever saw anyone lose his temper.

He simply blew up, and shouted, "I am not boy; I am gentleman!" His accent was so bad, however, that the stranger didn't understand. Afterwards the stranger drew me aside and asked me, "What did I do that made him so mad?" I explained to him that in Japan the word "boy" has the specific meaning of "servant." He was genuinely distressed. "Gosh," he said. "I didn't mean to hurt his feelings. Nobody ever told me that."

Somebody Ought To Tell Them

"THAT'S JUST the point," said Mr. Townsend when I had finished my story. "So many of them don't know what words are offensive and what words are not. And nobody ever tells them. That's why I'm telling them, whenever I come across an instance."

As a student of semantics, which is the investigation of human reactions to language and words, I could not help agreeing with him. Even when words like "darkey" or "boy" (used to address a grown person) are used in kindly meant speeches, they still carry certain unconscious attitudes of superiority and condescension. In calling these matters to the attention of people who have never thought about them before, we do more than revise their words; we compel them to rethink the attitudes behind them.

Anti-Union Negroes

FROM WORDS, we went on to a discussion apparently very close to Mr. Townsend's heart, namely, the anti-union attitude of some Negro employers.

"Their whole attitude just doesn't make sense," said Mr. Townsend. "In fighting unions they are fighting the most powerful force for Negro justice in existence."

He explained further: Negroes, even when they become rich employers, are still members of a class that is violently discriminated against. As long as white working people and Negro working people are played off against each other, discrimination and hostility will continue to exist against all Negroes—even rich and powerful ones.

It is Mr. Townsend's conviction that the "race problem" is only a by-product of a much bigger problem—the problem of all working people. If there is an exploited class of Negroes, white workers inevitably suffer. If there is an exploited class of whites, Negro workers will also suffer. They've got to work together and stay together.

Therefore, Mr. Townsend concluded, if a Negro, whether rich or poor, fights against bi-racial unions, he is fighting against a kind of organization that is doing all Negroes the greatest amount of good. That, he said, is just like cutting your own throat.

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Ferdinand Smith (right), newly-elected member of the CIO general executive board and secretary of the National Maritime union studies convention developments along with the NMU's vice president, Frederick Myers. Willard Townsend is other Negro on the executive board.

CIO



PM
New York, N. Y.

CIO Show Preview:

CIO President Philip Murray (seated at left) and Irving Abramson, chairman of the National CIO War Relief Committee, look as four singers of the new CIO-sponsored revue, *Marching With Johnny*, run through one of the show's songs. *Marching With Johnny*, which is designed to express labor's part in the war effort, opens next Monday at the Mosque Theater, Newark, and is due here at the City Center on Dec. 29. Net proceeds of the show go to CIO's War Relief Committee.

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TWO NEGROES ON CIO BOARD



Willard S. Townsend, president of the United Transport Service Employes union, shown greeting Vice President Henry Wallace at the CIO convention, where Wallace took occasion to blast at poll taxes.

Southern Labor Acts On the Political Front

SEP 19 1943
The Worker
New York, N. Y.

By Rob F. Hall

(Special to The Worker)

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—The resolution of the Political Action Committee of the CIO—generally known now as the Hillman committee—has now been adopted by regional conferences in Philadelphia, Detroit and Birmingham. The resolution is an important document and every trade union worthy of the name should by now, be familiar with it. It should be studied, discussed, reprinted until its contents are well known to the rank and file of labor. Only on this basis can we feel confident that the trade unions will take the steps necessary to political organization in the South.

The resolution closes with a five point program of action:

1. Immediately to start mobilizing the full force of the CIO for political action both in the local and statewide elections in the Fall of 1943 and for the crucial national campaign of 1944.

2. In each state and in each community to secure united political action with the AFL and Railway Brotherhoods, preferably through united political committees such as the Philadelphia United Labor Committee or through other means of collaboration.

3. To involve in such united labor actions the broadest possible consumer, farmer and progressive groups and organizations.

4. In the 1943 election and in preparation for 1944 to weld the unity of all forces who support the commander in chief behind a single progressive win-the-war candidate for each office.

5. To work toward the formation of a national united labor league which will include all CIO, AFL, Railway Brotherhood and unaffiliated labor unions who agree with our objectives and weld labor into the mighty political force which its numbers, strength, organizing ability and program entitle it to play in the life of our nation.

FAST WORK NEEDED

The application of Point No. 1 requires immediate action. This is particularly true in the Southern states which, because of the dominance of the Democratic Party, decide all major political questions in the primaries. These primaries, which will be held in early spring, will determine, for good or bad, such issues as whether a Roosevelt or an anti-Roosevelt delegation will go to the National Democratic Convention; whether the states will be represented in Congress by the incumbent bunch of reactionaries and anti-Roosevelt, anti-labor defeatists, or by a new group of Congressmen prepared to support a program of

DETROIT, ATLANTA ACT

The practical conclusion is:

Every trade union local and every industrial council should immediately set up a political action committee which will

1. Study the registration and elections laws of the state as well as the constitution and structure of the State Democratic Party.

2. Initiate a campaign to guarantee that every trade union member and his family (and his friends, too, if possible) shall comply with the legal requirements and be registered as a qualified voter. In poll tax states, this includes paying the poll tax.

The Detroit plan, under which each registered worker is given a button or a lapel tag, could certainly be used in our Southern mills and mines.

In Atlanta, the CIO has set up block committees to stimulate registration, and at the same time has made arrangements with the registrars to come to the local union meeting halls to register the workers.

In its dealings with the old line political machines, labor can expect two different reactions. On the one hand, there will be some politicians

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who—fearful of the growing strength of the labor vote—will put every obstacle in the way of registering workers. There will be others who—out of respect for labor's potential voting strength—will cooperate in the registration of the workers.

In either case, the job is to get labor voters registered and qualified. There is no time to lose. The books open for registration in Alabama in the latter part of November. In other states, [redacted] open soon.

There is another step which must be taken immediately. That one is described in Point No. 2 of the Hillman committee's program, the establishment of united labor political committees, involving the several wings of labor, to exercise pressure on the incumbent congressmen.

These two steps are the important immediate political tasks of the labor movement in the South, looking towards the 1944 elections.

At the CIO Fur Dressers' Exhibit: The Daily Worker New York, N. Y.

Pictures Tell How Negroes Helped to Build the U. S.

FEB 18 1943

By Eugene Gordon

The Negro's importance in the war against fascism is made clearer for all trade unionists by the exhibit on display in the headquarters of the Joint Board, Fur Dressers and Dyers Union, CIO, second floor of 245 eventh Ave. It contains textural and pictorial information about the Negro people which neither the white nor the Negro worker knows enough of.

It is the kind of exhibit that ought to be shown in every trade union hall in the country. Indeed, plans are being discussed for showing it in several such places in New York at least, after its present showing at the end of this month.

Photos, Books, Clippings, Cartoons

FEB 18 1943

The exhibit is made up of photographs, photo-montages, drawings, paintings, newspaper clippings, photo-murals of newspaper stories, (with illustrations) books and pamphlets, and cartoons. They are hung in the corridors and the reception room of the union headquarters, where hundreds of workers pass during the day.

Some exciting, though well-known pictures and bits of information, have turned up in the exhibit. One sees again, here, the reproduction of that painting showing John Brown, condemned to death, stopping—while the soldier guard waited—to kiss a Negro baby on the forehead. John Brown had been found guilty of murder at Harpers Ferry and the slaves crowded about the make-shift courtroom door to see and to touch him for the last time.

One sees again also pictures from the early volume on the Negro "Men of Mark," with brief stories about Captain Robert Smalls, the first Negro to command a United States naval vessel; and Granville T. Woods, electrical genius and inventor of the third rail; and Benjamin Banneker, inventor of a clock and assistant to L'Enfant in the laying out of Washigton, D. C.

There are scores of such pictures and texts in the exhibit, all more or less familiar to students of Negro history but little known among the rank and file of the people, including the Negro.

There are also some exciting new items. For instance, H. Sternberg's large, realistic painting of a Negro man, stripped of his clothing, his breasts cut away and his fine body otherwise mutilated, tied with a rope to a concrete-covered pillar. The lynched man's agony fascinates and horrifies and stirs one to bitter anger.

Above this picture — and the accompanying cartoons and drawing on lynching—is the caption: "Abolish the Poll Tax—Death to Lynchers."

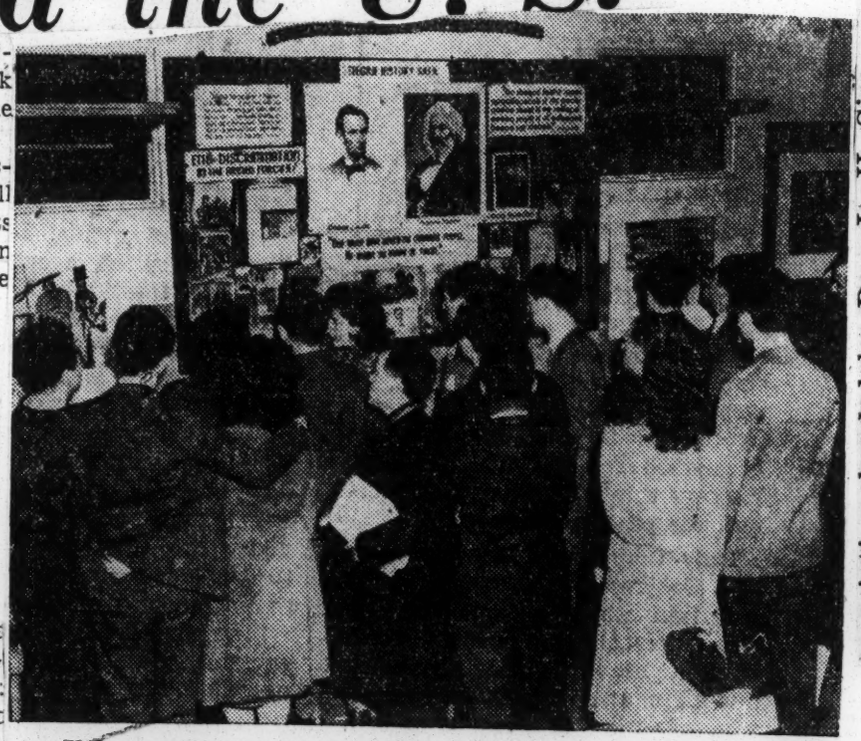
Material came from the Office of War Information — showing the Negro's partial achievements since the Emancipation Proclamation was signed 80 years ago; from the War, the Navy and the Agricultural departments of the United States; from the Artists League of America; from the **Peoples Voice**, the **New Masses**, the **NMU Pilot**, the **Daily Worker** and, through the courtesy of Dr. Lawrence Reddick, from the Schomburg Collection of Negro Literature, 135th St. Branch of the New York Public Library.

The union itself, of course, provided much of the material.

The exhibit was arranged by the Educational Department of the Joint Board, Fur Dressers and Dyers Union. The Anti-Discrimination Committee has immediate charge of it.

Lyndon Henry, a vice president of the International Fur and Leather Workers Union of the United States and Canada, CIO, and organizer of the Fancy Fur Dyers Union, Local 88, CIO, is chairman of the Anti-Discrimination committee. Frank Griffin is vice chairman. Louis Bryan is secretary. Harry Martel, educational director of the Joint Board, supervises the exhibit.

Mr. Martel says that at 8 o'clock Friday (tomorrow) evening his Educational Department, at the Hotel Diplomat, will commemorate Negro History Week and pay a special tribute to the late Dr. George Washington Carver.



Union members gather around to admire the exhibit for Negro History Week at the Joint Board of the Fur Dressers and Dyers Union, CIO, at 245 Seventh Avenue.

WORKERS SHOULD KNOW THE TRUTH

Negro Labor News By C. W. RICE Houston, Texas

DEC 26 1942

R. R. Grovey and The Houston Informer are still trying to fool the public about the CIO. Both Grovey, CIO organizer for nearly two years, and The Informer, CIO mouthpiece, were repudiated, denounced and condemned at the bar of public opinion on December 10 when less than 100 of the 1100 Negroes employed at Hughes Tool voted for the CIO which they advocated. Instead of being fair and telling the public that they got a big let down and acknowledge that their advice on labor is nothing more than "sounding brass and tinkling cymbal," Grovey, The Informer and their henchmen, are still making and publishing false statements in the paper to 'hoodwink' the public about the CIO and the Hughes Tool election. They are trying to cover their defeat by yellow-journalism, lambasting, name-calling and dodging the issue.

DEC 26 1942

In order to deceive the public Grovey published in The Houston Informer December 19 issue that the CIO had appointed a committee of six Negroes and six whites to negotiate a contract between the Hughes Tool Company and the workers. On the following Friday morning a circular, signed by the white local of the CIO at Hughes, urging all members to attend a meeting Sunday December 20, was distributed. At this time a committee was to be named to negotiate a contract for Hughes Tool workers. A check shows that the meeting was held and instead of naming six Negroes and six whites as Grovey stated, the union named 12 whites and 7 Negroes on the contract committee.

Since the election, it is reported that a number of the Negro workers who joined the CIO, have withdrawn their membership and it is believed by some that those who were named on the committee constitute the entire Negro membership. Report further that the Negro CIO local No. 2457 at Hughes has been abandoned.

Why would Grovey publish this misleading statement in the paper?

CIO bosses tried to deceive the public by publishing a word of thanks to the Baptist Ministers Association for the CIO's 'Victory' at Hughes Tool. Everyone in Houston knows that if the ministers association, headed by Rev. L. H. Simpson, and comprising the most outstanding ministers of this state and nation, had endorsed the CIO at Hughes Tool, the union certainly would have gotten more than 50 or 60 colored votes in the election. Why didn't Grovey be fair and tell the public that the ministers association refused to become embroiled in the labor dispute at Hughes and that the ministers took the position that it was out of place and destructive to church activities for ministers' organizations and assessments, etc., at the wishes of union bosses for the duration of the contract, maybe for the duraation of the war.

To force workers to stay in a union and have employers deduct from the workers' wages, union dues, assessments, etc., against their wishes, is the worst type of dictatorship. It is worse than Hitlerism which our men and boys are fighting to destroy.

In Europe today, and in far away Russia, the people are moaning and groaning under the lash of Hitler. Honest workers who were once free are **FORCED** to pay monies to Hitler's labor unions to further destroy the hope of ever becoming free men again. Let the proud French who were once just as free as we, speak! Listen

to Jean Darlan, once ruler of France, tell why he left his native land, the sunny land of France, for the jungles of Africa, to escape Hitler's wrath—to be a FREE man again. Darlan will bear witness that the French laborers were forced to stay in labor unions under government regulations. The union and closed shop were popular. These and sit down strikes were the forerunners of Hitlerism.

Do we, white or black, want Hitlerism in any form in America? Why should a worker be forced to stay in a labor union any more than he would be to stay in a church, lodge, civic club, or any other organization? Even a soldier may get a discharge from the armed forces. One can get a divorce from his wife if he so desires. He may quit his political party at will. But, NOW, here in FREE AMERICA, within the law, a WORKER CAN NOT QUIT a labor union after 15 days when a contract is signed including the UNION MAINTENANCE CLAUSE during the life of that contract. Contracts between workers and employers are or will be signed for the duration.

DEC 26 1942

Negro workers should not become discouraged because of the action of some white workers. It should be remembered that dictators are working to enslave the proud American whites as well as the humblest worker of the colored race. The colored workers at Hughes Tool should speak and act in the language of that young lawyer, Patrick Henry, who once said—"I care not what course others might pursue, as for me, GIVE ME LIBERTY OR GIVE ME DEATH."

Fla. CIO Parley Blasts Jim-Crow

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.
APR 26 1943

(Special to the Daily Worker)

ORLANDO, Fla., April 25.—A State CIO Council was flourishing here today, after a historic convention at which Negro and white union delegates from six CIO internationals discussed common problems and charted a course of action.

It was believed the first state-wide meeting at which Negro and white delegates broke through Jim Crow barriers and joined as accredited representatives in a united program.

Aim of the Council is to extend support to the war through organizing the unorganized and combatting anti-labor forces.

The convention dispatched a delegate to the state legislature at Tallahassee to speak against bills which would outlaw the closed shop and required state control of unions.

The new CIO Council invited the Florida Federation of Labor, AFL, and the Railroad Brotherhoods to name win-the-war committees for joint action.

Unions represented at the session were: Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding; National Maritime, American Communications Association; American Newspaper Guild; United Automobile Workers and United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers.

The convention declared for the immediate opening of a European offensive to insure Hitler's quick defeat. Other resolutions:

1.—Condemned bringing Bahaman and other foreign labor into the state when local labor is available.

2.—Voted support to active organizing drives in Florida citrus and shipbuilding.

8.—Urged increased production through labor-management committees.

4.—Urged passage of the Tapper-Kilgore-Tolan bill to centralize and control the national economy.

The convention condemned those elements in the United States Congress who oppose President Roosevelt's proposal to grant subsidies to small farmers for increased food production.

The convention also declared for allied labor unity and voted to ask the State Department for immediate release of anti-fascists in North Africa. Adoption of the federal anti-lynch bill and the anti-poll tax bill was also urged.

Cecil Roberts, a representative of UCAPAWA, was elected president of the council. William Smith, regional director of the Marine and Shipbuilding Workers, was elected secretary-treasurer. The Council headquarters will be in Jacksonville.

Union's Mandate Against Bias To Be Carried Out

March 20, 1943

WASHINGTON.—(ANP) — Formal announcement is due shortly from CIO headquarters that an administrative secretary has been appointed to carry out the mandate of last year's convention when the organization firmly denounced discrimination in the ranks of labor and appointed an anti-discrimination committee to root it out in its own yard.

This committee, of which Willard S. Townsend, president of the United Transport Service Employes association, is chairman, has already authorized the appointment, and the executive council of the CIO has given its approval.

The probability is that George Weaver, former Washington representative for the UTSEA and currently a member of the CIO's Allied War Relief committee, will be given the job of coordinating existing efforts initiating new ones to defeat discriminatory practices within the organization. Weaver is now spending part of his time completing a law course at Howard university.

The announcement will come, according to reliable information, not so much as an answer to recent criticism that has been levelled at the committee for "inaction," but rather as the result of close study of what would be the best method of operation.

It was considered undesirable to set up "segregated machinery," as a CIO spokesman characterized these demands, so long as existing media might be utilized. Many locals of the union already have similar committees and have been waging a fight.

Defense League Asks U. S. To Probe Beating of Workers

The Daily Worker
Aug. 10, 1943

By CLIFF MacKAY

VICKSBURG, Miss.—(ANP)—Federal investigation into the nocturnal kidnapping and brutal beating of two CIO organizers attempting to secure union recognition for the more than 1,000 Negro workers of the Anderson-Tully Lumber company here was demanded Wednesday by Frank McAllister, southern secretary of the Workers Defense League.

McAllister disclosed that he was in possession of two affidavits signed by Claude Welch, white, and Frank Davis, colored, detailing how they were abducted and beaten by mobs headed by company guards and city police.

The situation at the local lumber company, 50 per cent of whose 1,500 employees are Negroes, has become extremely tense since the National Labor Relations board ordered an election for April 6 to determine the bargaining agent for the workers.

Davis, who is from Memphis, disclosed how he was arrested and later in the night kicked out of the back door of the jail into the hands of a waiting mob. Carried to the outskirts of the city, he was brutally beaten over the head by armed men and told to get out of town if he valued his life.

Both Welch and Davis are employed as organizers for the International Wood Workers of America, CIO.

CIO Organizers Severely Beaten-Up In Deep South

APR 17 1943

ATLANTA, Ga., April 8 — The Southern Workers' Defense league, as follows:

"Brutal beating of two organizers has launched an immediate investigation into the beating of the International Woodworkers' organizers in Vicksburg, Miss., on Wednesday, March 17. Claude Welch, white, and Frank Davis, colored, CIO, took place in Vicksburg, Miss., on Wednesday, March 17. Claude Welch, white, organizer in Vicksburg area for the International Wood-IWA was taken forcibly under threat of death at the point of a gun from his home where he resided with his wife and two children loaded into an automobile, driven out of town, handcuffed to a tree and given a bad beating. We believe local police involvement. We wired Frank McCallister, southern secretary of the Workers' Defense league, as follows:

"Brutal beating of two organizers by city police and it is Frank Avis, Negro IWA organizer, was given a severe beating. that he was beaten badly while in jail. Frank Avis, Negro IWA organizer, was arrested by police, picked up apparently by police, placed in jail and given a bad beating. We believe local police involvement. We wired President Roosevelt, U. S. Attorney General Biddle protesting this abrogation of civil rights and urging that Department of Justice take jurisdiction over case to see that those responsible for such brutal action are punished to fullest extent of the law."

APPEALS FOR AID

In an appeal for aid, Worth

CIO Clerks Ask Labor, Consumers on OPA Boards

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.
MAY 18 1943

An appeal that "OPA and the Food Disribution Administration be reorganized to include representatives from labor and the consumer on policy and enforcement boards of the agency," was made at the second annual conference of CIO retail clerks Sunday.

Local 338, Retail, Wholesale and Chain Store Food Employes Union, condemned the Connally Anti-

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REEL 82

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MAY 18 1943

ATLANTA, Ga., April 8 — The Southern Workers' Defense league, as follows:
"Brutal beating of two organizers launched an immediate investigation of the beating of the CIO organizers in Vicksburg, Miss., on Wednesday, April 7. Claude Welch, white, and Frank Davis, Negro, were abducted from the International Wood-workers' of America, CIO, union hall in Vicksburg, Miss., on Wednesday, April 7. Claude Welch, white, area organizer in Vicksburg, was kidnapped at the point of death at the home where he resided with his wife and two children and driven out of town, with wife and two children in an automobile, to a tree and given a severe beating. Lowery McCallister, southern secretary of the Workers' Defense League, wired IWA president, Murray J. Kudish, as follows:

"Claude Welch, IWA organizer in Vicksburg, Miss., was taken forcibly under a gun threat from the point he resided at the home where he resided in Vicksburg, Miss., by a group of armed men, loaded into an automobile, driven out of town, handcuffed to a tree and given a severe beating.

"Welch, who is white, and Frank Davis, Negro IWA organizer, was given a severe beating. Avis, IWA organizer, was kidnapped by police and it is Frank Avis, Negro IWA organizer, picked up apparently by police and given a bad beating by city police and badly beaten that he was placed in jail and given a bad beating. We believe local police involved in both actions. We wired President Roosevelt, U. S. Attorney General Biddle protesting this abrogation of civil rights and urging that Department of Justice take jurisdiction over case to see that those responsible for such brutal action are punished to fullest extent of the law."

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Robert A. Ginsburg of the War Department, Supreme Court Justice Frank Murphy, Labor Bill and demanded that "government agencies take the necessary steps to roll back prices to the Sept. 15, 1942 level, or permit the necessary adjustment in wages to meet the increased cost of living."

The conference heard a report

35i-1943
Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Townsend Is Appointed To CIO Board

JAN 9 - 1943

Racial Bars Let Down In Many Instances

By GEORGE F. McCRAY
(For ANP)

CHICAGO, Ill. — Tremendous gains were made by Negro labor in 1942, a careful check-up of important labor development reveals. The work of various groups long opposed to discrimination against Negroes was aided by our urgent need to mobilize total manpower to achieve Maximum production. This situation caused Negro workers to receive unusual recognition from the government, industry and labor organizations.

Perhaps the most spectacular event of the year was the placing of Willard Townsend on the CIO's executive board. Townsend became the first Negro to ever hold such a position and his presence on the board enables Negroes to participate directly in the formulation of policies relating to labor and the conduct of the war.

More than any other individual Townsend is responsible for the CIO's no-discrimination policy with respect to unity negotiations with the AFL.

Just as the year closed the CIO through its president, Phillip Murray, pledged a continuation of its fight "against any discrimination in employment directed against Negroes, against women, against the foreign-born, or against any workers whose loyal participation must be enlisted in our total war effort."

The pledge highlighted Murray's New Year's message, in which he further declared that the CIO "will continue to work for effective labor unity to promote the war effort, without sacrifice of the democratic gains made through industrial organization, and without yielding to any form of racial discrimination."

FEPC SAVED

JAN 9 - 1943

Of far greater significance however, was the defeat of the attempt of southern Democrats and reactionary employers to scuttle the President's Committee on Fair Employments Practices.

This move failed only because win-the-war groups in the country sprang to the defense of the committee demanding that no effort be made to curb its effectiveness. Most of the credit for the saving of the committee goes to the CIO and the NAACP. FEPC now has a larger staff and more adequate funds with which to work.

To date the greatest single achievement of FEPC is its Great Lakes doctrine; namely that closed shop contracts will not be allowed to prevent the employment of defense workers because of the race, nationality or religion of such workers.

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UNIONS FIGHT DISCRIMINATION

Though the year was marked by a number of so-called "hate-strikes" against the employment of Negro workers these demonstrations by white workers were exceeded by the large number of indictments which FEPC returned against defense employers for similar acts of discrimination.

The CIO, on suggestion of Bill Townsend, established a special anti - discrimination committee; Philip Murray appointed Boyd Wilson as his special assistant to complete the integration of Negro steel workers into the United Steel Workers of America.

The United Automobile Workers of America and the National Maritime Union made extraordinary efforts to cement interracial cooperation and goodwill These efforts were matched by other CIO unions particularly in the south. The crowning result of this struggle was the placing of mixed crews in the American Merchant marine.

Despite the fact that A. P. Randolph failed to get constructive support for an anti-discrimination program at the Toronto convention of the AFL; despite the fact that the AFL machinists and boilermakers unions stubbornly resisted the employment of Negroes as skilled workers in shipyards, the barriers of discrimination in the AFL began to crumble.

Milton P. Webster, vice president of the International Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and a member of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices, was named by William Green, president of the AFL, as a member of a nine-man post war planning committee to "start planning now "for world reconstruction." Mr. Webster was one of two Negro delegates to the Federation's convention held in Toronto, Canada.

JAN 9

His appointment to the committee was regarded as of unusual significance in view of his fight against racial discrimination practices by certain AFL unions. It was believed that President Green gave at least indirect support to the fight waged by the Negro group, and provided assurance that a better break for minority groups would be a major phase of the committee's discussions.

Bill Green and Frank Fenton—the latter is director of organization for the AFL—appointed several special Negro representatives to assist them in racial matters. More significantly, the 14 non-operating brotherhoods in the railroad industry dropped the bars and seated Solon C. Bell and Richard Smith as delegates to the collective bargaining conference of the non-operating unions. Thus the Joint Council of Dining Car Employes became the 15th member of the group.

William Harrison's Brotherhood of Railway Clerks hired a Negro organizer for the first time.

Already a number of local clerks unions are admitting Negroes into full membership despite provisions in the constitution of the international union requiring the segregation of Negroes. Other AFL unions, particularly in the building trades, were forced to open their doors to Negroes.

EMPLOYMENT GAINS

The year was marked by a steady stream of Negro men and women entering the employ of the government and private employers. Reports indicate that these workers are not only finding employment in the traditional occupations open to Negroes, but hundreds of skilled jobs were also being made available.

In summary the position and status of Negro labor in American industry has been markedly improved by the war What will bring will depend upon the course of the war and the willingness and the ability of Negroes to continue the fight to crush discrimination in unions and in industry.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

Threats to call in the U.S. army and navy, a story elsewhere in this edition reveals, are credited with the halting of a work stoppage at the Bethlehem Steel Company's Sparrows Point plant last Friday, when some white workers protested the hiring of a colored welder in the electrical department.

DEC 26 1942

Officials of the United Steelworkers of America, CIO, holding a union contract with the steel company, announced that the welder would remain on his job with their support and that any resulting disturbances would be viewed as a form of sabotage in the war effort and would be pointed out to government officials as such.

Faced with this ultimatum, the whites dropped the issue and the welder in question has remained on his new job unmolested.

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Result: A lesson in positiveness placed in the right direction which other firms in this area, who anticipate or are faced with a similar situation, might well copy.

LABOR NEWS OFFICIAL THREATENED AT PORT ARTHUR BY SIX WHITE MEN BELIEVED TO BE MEMBERS OF THE CIO

JAN 2 - 1943

Port Arthur, Texas.—G. G. Aldre[illegible]r., assistant general manager of The Negro Labor News, o[illegible]ston, narrowly escaped being beaten by a mob of six young white men Sunday, December 20, as he was leaving the Post Office. In a report of the incident, Aldredge said the men accosted him about 8 o'clock at Fifth and Dallas Streets and one attempted to strike him, but he was warded off by some papers which he (Aldredge) carried. Following the attack, Aldredge said he met another white man, a CIO worker, whom he met some days before, who told him he (Aldredge) was discussed by a group of fellows, white and members of the CIO; that they wanted to know his business in Port Arthur, and how long he would be in the city. Aldredge said the man didn't know he had been attacked.

Two Reasons for Attack

Mr. Aldredge said he could not account for the attack unless it was because of his connection with The Labor News which has carried several articles condemning CIO tactics of misrepresenting facts on the race issue to keep all Negroes out of Port Arthur who did not agree with his union and race theory, and to deprive the colored citizens of their right to choose and read papers of their own to enlighten them.

The white man criticised the policy and the editor on his labor operation wanted to know about the

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of papers.

White Man Attacks Editor in Paper

Recently a white man who gave his name as F. H. Mitchell of Port Arthur was in Port Arthur sometime ago, viciously attacked C. W. Rice, Labor News editor, in an article published in The Houston Informer and its chain opinion that the man represented a

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

CIO Will Oppose All Race Discrimination In Labor Ranks

WASHINGTON, D. C. — A continuation of the fight "against any discrimination in employment directed against Negroes, against women, against the foreign-born, or against any other workers whose loyal participation must be enlisted in our total war effort" was pledged by the Committee on Industrial Organization this week thru its president, Phillip Murray.

The pledge highlighted the labor union executive's New Year message, in which he further declared that the CIO "will continue to work for effective labor unity to promote the war effort without sacrifice of the democratic gains made through industrial organization and without yielding to any form of racial discrimination."

Mr. Murray promised to work "for effective labor unity," and "for the complete abolition of the undemocratic poll tax."

He asserted that labor was aware of the great effort required to insure victory, voiced opposition to "negotiated peace or appeasement," insisted on "full and direct participation of labor in the formulation and administration of war policies and activities," warned against inflation and inadequate distribution of available goods, and criticized "special privilege."

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Charges Railroads Of South Signed Pact To Hire No More Negro Firemen

Railroads of the South on which Negroes for more than half a century have worked as firemen, have agreed to hire no more Negroes until white firemen are in the majority, it was revealed here this week by Willard S. Townsend, president of the United Transport Service Workers of America, CIO.

Townsend's charge was one of many others in a statement he had prepared on "Employment of Negroes in the Railroad Industry," which he was to present on January 25 at the FEPC hearing in Washington. The hearing was cancelled by Paul V. McNutt, head of the War Manpower Commission. Townsend declared: "Mr. McNutt is unwilling to have these matters aired."

Text Of Agreement

Townsend's statement, concerning the banning of Negro firemen reads as follows:

"In the south, the railroads have made a series of agreements which put their discrimination squarely down on paper. There happens to be a number of Negro firemen working in the south. The railroads have agreed in writing to cease hiring Negro firemen and to hire only white firemen until at least 55 per cent or more of the firemen are white. I have a copy of the agreement signed by the General Superintendent in behalf of the Trustees of the Florida East Coast Railway company to whom our organization has protested that the contract violates the Railway Labor Act. This agreement reads as follows:

SPECIAL AGREEMENT

Between Scott M. Loftin and Edward Lane, as Trustees of the property of the Florida East Coast Railway company, and not individually, and the Craft of Locomotive Engineers represented by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

Effective Feb. 19, 1942

IT IS HEREBY MUTUALLY AGREED, that:

(a) Each engineer on the seniority roster of the Florida East Coast Railway company, holding a seniority date as such prior to January 1, 1942, will be accredited with seniority date as Firemen as of January 1, 1942, in the same sequence that his name appears on the seniority roster of engineers.

(b) Each engineer employed after January 1, 1942, will be given a seniority date as fireman as of the date he is employed as an engineer. An engineer promoted from the position outside hostler will be given a date as fireman as of the date of such promotion.

(c) Engineers accredited with seniority rights as firemen as of January 1, 1942, will not be permitted to exercise such rights in firing service until all of the Colored Firemen having seniority rights prior to January 1, 1942, have fully exercised their seniority rights to position of firemen. When all of the Colored Firemen, with seniority rights prior to January 1, 1942, have exercised such rights promotable firemen will be used in firing positions until fifty five per cent (55%) men will be used in firing positions are filled by promotable men.

FLORIDA EAST COAST RAILWAY COMPANY
Scott M. Loftin and
Edward Lane, Trustees
By: C. L. Beals,
General Superintendent

BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS
By: G. W. Laughlin,
1st Asst. Grand Chief Engineer
By: Taylor J. Harris,
General Chairman

"A National Disgrace"

Other highlights of President Townsend's statement are as follows:

"On the whole, the American railroads' discrimination in employing Negro workers is an outstanding national disgrace. Negro railroad workers have been relegated to a second class status and have been systematically excluded from virtually all positions which offer decent wages, substantial advancement opportunity or adequate retirement benefits. The latest published figures show that the average wage for all railroad employes in 1940 was $1,333. For Negro employes, the average wage was $708.

In what capacity do Negroes work on the Nation's railroad? Red capping, doing janitor and cleaning work, helping maintain equipment and stores, cooking and serving meals and washing the dishes, making up berths and portering in Pullmans and other cars.

"More than 90 per cent of all the Negro railroad workers do work such as I have just described. I have watched in vain for Negro workers who might be working as executives or driving engines, superintending stations, operating telegraph equipment, clerking in the offices, selling tickets, policing property, working as signalmen or dispatching trains.

Only One In 1,000

"My estimate is that there is an average of about one Negro worker per thousand in railroad jobs outside of those jobs traditionally open to Negroes which I mentioned before. I base my estimate on my observation and on the best available figures and public documents.

"In 1940, the Class I railroad employed 1,421,222 persons of whom 127,647 or nine per cent were Negro workers. Their average pay was $708 against $1,359 for other employes. Nearly 97 per cent of all these Negro workers, that is to say, all but 4,015 were in the following jobs only: janitors and cleaners, extra gang, section and maintenance of way men, laborers and helpers, baggage room and station attendants and truckers, chefs, cooks, and waiters and train attendants. In all of the 111 other classifications of employes recognized by the Interstate Commerce Commission, there are 4,015 Negro workers or three-tenths of one per cent out of a total of 1,297,563.

"Since I know that there are more than 2,000 Negro firemen in the South accounting for a good part of the 4,015, I do not believe that you will find more than one Negro worker in a thousand in any of the other desirable job classifications.

"The 1940 census showed that of 46,185 railroad conductors, only 43 were Negroes. Of 31,554 telegraph operators only 35 or about one in two thousand were Negroes. Even in jobs where Negro and white employes both work in large numbers, the average pay for the Negro worker is always lower than for the white worker in the same classification.

High Production Urged By Robeson

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

CHICAGO, Aug. 5 — (ANP) — Stimulating the war effort in various plants throughout the country with song and by speech, Paul Robeson, internationally famous baritone, made a surprise appearance at Apex Smelting company last week on a program sponsored jointly by the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers (CIO) and management.

Robeson, in a short address, urged the workers to maintain high production to speedily get the weapons of warfare into the hands of fighting men and help bring the conflict to a satisfactory conclusion.

Nation
New York, N. Y

TWO ORGANIZERS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL

Woodworkers of America, C. I. O., were recently assigned to organize the 1,200 workers, of whom 90 per cent are Negroes, in the Anderson-Tully Lumber Company at Vicksburg, Mississippi. The National Labor Relations Board had ordered an election for April 8 to determine whether or not the I. W. A. represented a majority of the workers. On March 18 the two organizers—Claud Welch, a white man, and Frank Davis, a Negro—were brutally beaten and told to leave the county. In affidavits secured by the Southern Workers' Defense League Davis stated that after having been arrested on no charge and kept in jail twenty-four hours without food he was turned over by the police chief to three armed men who drove him into the country, handcuffed him to a tree, beat him with a rubber hose, and then drove him into the woods at the point of a gun. "God dammit," they told him, "we don't want unions down here. That's for people in the North." Welch said that he had been lured out of his home by a false message and driven into a waiting car manned by local officials and mill employees. He received the same treatment. On the basis of the affidavits the civil-liberties unit of the Department of Justice has ordered a federal investigation. As Maury Maverick used to say, it is high time the South—some parts of it at least—joined the Union.

The Worker
New York, N. Y.



FUR FLOOR "BOYS": At least that's the name of the union of which these young girls are new members.

MAY 16 1943

Union Name That's Out of Date

SOMETHING'S got to be done about the name of the Fur Floor Boys and Shipping Clerks Union.

The militant local that brought glory to the International Fur and Leather Workers, CIO, time and time again over the past decade and more will just have to change its monicker. That's all there is to it.

Reason: the floor boys aren't boys nowadays. They're girls. With 1,300 of the members of Local 125 in the armed services and more being called all the time, somebody had to take over. Women did. Right now there are more than 150 working in the shops. More are coming in every day.

They do nearly all the jobs the boys used to handle. They run errands, keep the shop neat, clean skins and nail them on boards. They don't lift the heavy boards and turn them over. That's one job that's too tough for wimmin's physique and the union is making arrangements for other workers to do it.

The floor girls get their training in the Fur Vest Project which union and management in the industry run jointly in order to provide vests for merchant seamen. They work there for about a week till they learn the ropes; then they are assigned to a shop.

Most of the newcomers never were in a union before but they're learning fast. John Vafiades, acting manager of Local 125 — the floor boys — called those who wanted to be active to a meeting Wednesday night at the offices, 250 W. 26th St. Over 35 of them turned up and nearly all of them volunteered for one union committee or another.

Vafiades told them a little about the traditions of the union and the struggles that went into winning them the $24, $26 and $30 scales of pay which they now receive. He explained, too, how the union long since had abolished discrimination between men and women, gaining equal pay for equal work, and called upon them to pitch in and maintain and extend the standards that organization had established.

Many of the floor girls are Negroes and more than half of those who came out for Wednesday night's meeting were Negroes, too. The Negro Labor Victory Committee is cooperating with the union in enlisting workers to take the places of the boys called to fight the Axis.

Among the projects on which the floor girls are getting active are making bandages for the Red Cross (some of them are doing that already), joining the union's price control and consumer action committee work, and establishment of a special Local 125 Women's Committee.

While they get their work under way, it seems pretty clear that the Fur Floor Boys are just going to have to do something about changing that name.

Charleston, S. C. Evening Courier
August 8 1943

C.I.O. Answers Race Charge

It was only after the American Federation of Labor union launched its campaign that the racial issue was injected into the contest for collective bargaining rights at the American Tobacco company's cigar factory, Edwin McCrae, international representative of the C.I.O., said yesterday in reply to a statement by John J. Irwin, president of the Charleston Central Labor union (A.F. of L.), that the outcome of the election Thursday was based on racial issues and false promises the C.I.O. will be unable to keep.

"We think the record vote cast by the C.I.O. is proof that our union received strong support of all departments in the plant," Mr. McCrae said. "The A.F. of L. must remember that the C.I.O. polled 72 per cent of the total vote.

"The overall support given the C.I.O. in the campaign was the result of consistent activities to bring to the workers the union program. These activities continued over a period of more than a year.

"It was only after the A.F. of L. entered the election campaign on the closing day that any tenseness developed, and then it was only through the common sense and intelligence of the workers, and the efforts of the C.I.O. to avoid any provocations, that peace was preserved. During the C.I.O.'s year of activity, not once did any racial friction appear at the plant.

"On election day even a policeman was heard to say, "Those C.I.O. boys surely conduct a clean election".

"Contrary to the policy of the C.I.O. to avoid mud-slinging, name-calling, and controversial issues, the A.F. of L. resorted to the use of all of these tactics, but failed dismally to split the C.I.O. vote. The late statement of Mr. John J. Irwin is a deliberate attempt to discredit the C.I.O. victory and to salve the wounds of a defeated union.

"It also seems likely an attempt to arouse friction within the plant itself, but I am sure any such attempt is doomed to failure. The election firmly established the C.I.O. as a bargaining agency for the purpose of securing a contract benefitting every single worker.

"Any one now attempting to interfere with the peaceful procedure of collective bargaining will be dealing not only with the union but with the federal government as well.

"All attention of the C.I.O. is now directed to securing a just contract representing all employes. For this purpose representatives will be elected from each department and all groups will be fully represented. This has been the expressed program of the C.I.O. from the start. It was explained to all groups, and the results of the election showed that they understood.

"We brand as false any distortion of the C.I.O. program regarding jobs at the plants. The C.I.O. intends to safeguard jobs of every worker in the factory, regardless of race, color or creed."

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

CIO Wins Election At Sun Shipyards

(Special to the Daily Worker)

CHESTER, Pa., July 1. — The Sun Shipbuilding and Drydock Co. yards went to the CIO column today after an intense National Labor Board election campaign.

The vote was very close but indicative of the hard struggle the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers had to wage to break the hold of a long-established company union.

The CIO drew 12,816 ballots to 11,906 for the Sun Ship Employes Association, 864 votes were cast for no union and 61 ballots were challenged. This gives the CIO a majority of 910 over the SSEA. The requirement is a majority of all the counted ballots. But that a runoff will be required is a remote mathematical possibility since all the 61 challenges came from the SSEA.

The intense interest in the election is shown by the fact that of the 29,700 workers eligible to cast ballots, 15,000 of them Negroes, 25,586 took part in the vote. The yards employ 34,000.

A VICTORY FOR UNITY

The victory for the CIO was equally a victory for the win-the-war policies of the President and for Negro-white unity. The company, a subsidiary of the Sun Oil Co., is owned by the Pew family, a great power in Pennsylvania Republican politics.

"The CIO victory shows the reasole bargaining agent, there is no doubt that a jump in the production of ships will show the enemy that labor is determined to maturity of the labor movement, and its understanding of the need to support the President's war policies," declared CIO organizer William Bell. "It marks a new high in Negro and white anti-fascist unity. It shows that the labor movement is able to undertand and act on the Negro question, and that the Negro people are in the organized labor movement for keeps.

SEVEN-YEAR STRUGGLE

The victory climaxed seven years of struggle to unionize the yards. The company left no stone unturned to head off unionization. Its campaign of terror against the workers reached a climax when seven workers were shot by company guards. One of them died last week. Both guards and workers were Negroes.

"When the CIO is certified as policy drew nation-wide attention when the No. 4 yards were opened

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

CIO Wins Over Pew in 7-Year Battle Despite Sun Shipbuilding Reign of Terror

Special Correspondence

CHESTER, Pa., July 8.—The CIO has broken the solid anti-labor front which the Pew interests have held doggedly for seven years.

After a bitter campaign, it emerged today as bargaining agent for the 30,000 workers at the Sun Shipbuilding and Drydock Co., owned by John G. Pew, cousin of Joseph Pew, oil magnate and GOP generalissimo in Pennsylvania.

Local 2, International Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers, CIO, was declared the winner in an NLRB election over the Sun Ship Employes Assn., unaffiliated, which CIO officials charged was a company union. The vote gave the CIO 12,818; the Association 11,908, while 864 cast ballots for no union.

The CIO's victory is the culmination of years of organization work at the yards marked by bitter strikes and shootings.

Four months after the NLRB granted the CIO's petition for an election, the union charged Pew with conducting a "terroristic campaign" in discharging CIO supporters and trying to coerce or intimidate prospective CIO voters.

The climax of the election campaign came several weeks before the balloting in No. 4 Yard, which is manned entirely by 700 Negroes. While both the CIO and the Association directed their organizational activities at these Negro workers, Pew himself invited Edwin Barclay, retiring president of Liberia, to tour the yards when the head of the Negro republic was a visitor in the U. S. A. Barclay had an elaborate luncheon at the yards.

Recently five Negro workers were shot in a row with Negro company guards, and one subsequently died. The CIO charged that the guards were ordered by the company to "get tough" with any CIO supporters.

The CIO's activities at the Sun yards go back to a 1936 strike there. In March, 1937, the independent union won an NLRB election and signed a series of contracts.

In 1940, the CIO charged the Association was company dominated and was upheld by the NLRB, which ordered it disbanded. Pew, however, appealed to the U. S. Circuit Court which reversed the NLRB ruling last March.

Labor Unionist Disappointed In Lack Of Interest

By NEIL SCOTT
Labor Columnist

NEW YORK, Feb. 25—Philip Murray, James Carey and Lin Coe were in town last week to participate in the TWU Madison Square Garden Rally. On Tuesday I succeeded in getting an interview with Mr. Murray, the CIO president, which lasted for the better part of an hour and a half.



Neil Scott, labor correspondent of the Courier, is shown interviewing Philip Murray, president of the CIO, in his suite at the Roosevelt Hotel.—Rowe photo.

I asked Mr. Murray if he thought Negro leaders were giving the labor movement sufficient support.

Mr. Muray replied quite frankly, "No." Then I asked why he thought Negro leaders were, as a general rule, so unco-operative. Mr. Murray indicated that he didn't believe the situation could be isolated to any one specific reason but was the accumulated result of numerous and varied attitudes and ideas concerning the trade union movement.

I then questioned if Mr. Murray would be willing to sit in conference with a representative body of Negro leaders and work out a unified plan for such common objectives as: destruction of the poll tax laws of the South, lynchings, and the Dies Committee. Mr. Murray affirmed that he would be glad to, and had been wanting to do just that for a lnog time.

TRAGIC FACT

Now it is a tragic situation which threatens us as a race that our leaders cannot see the light of hope in organized labor. Even the most illiterate realize that the majority of colored people are unskilled and need protection from exploitation. Our American heritage has been that of the scab and forcefully exploited worker. This has been the case largely because colored men even to this day, have not learned the power of organization.

We have not learned to combine our strength with our friends, regardless of the color of their skin, and fight for a common victory. Every Southern white man is not a poll taxer and all Northern white men don't feel the same as Abraham Lincoln. The colored man, north and south, must find his true friends and then work toward a common goal.

UNIONISM HAS VIRTUES

Despite many glowing examples to the contrary, unions represent the medium through which members of the working class, colored and white, can combine to protect themselves from the brutal lashes of their wouldbe masters. The manufacturers' association represents a medium through which managements can operate to keep the working class unorganized and subjected. Manufacturers have many other mediums—the anti-union press, and radio being the most potent, while workers only have their uninos. "A house divided cannot stand," and it is equally true that workers divided because of race, creed, skill or color, will be crushed by any and all who would dominate them.

STORMY SESSION

James Carey, secretary-treasurer of CIO, said that he was present at a recent important meeting of colored leaders in Washington during which the personalities were so hostile that they nearly broke up the assembly. I am not taking Mr. Carey's statement as the only basis for my belief that even our Negro leaders cannot get along among themselves. The papers have carried in detail the difference of opinion between our Northern and our Southern leaders. Leadership is not an easy capacity to assume. Leadership demands of those who wear its girdle, correct guidance to a common goal. In the case of the Negro, we assume that we all have one goal in mind—complete freedom. Then what do our leaders have to quarrel about? Who is going to be leader of the movement? Who should be on the committee to wait on the President or Mr. McNutt? Or is it, who is to be sergeant-at-arms? Certainly it could not be for such reasons so petty, for the cause is too great and we've paid so bitterly for our limited scope.

FALSE LEADERSHIP

The fact that we have more than our quota of organizations is one of the keys to our problem. These organizations are headed by self-styled philosopher kings who hold their positions by right of "divine authority." These organizations never hold an election of officers and are supported by the wealthy of the North who own the "run-away slave shops" of the South. Let us finish with so many organizations and establish an all-inclusive one. Let that organization have regularly scheduled elections so that the people might have their choice for leadership. Colored people could then move under one leader toward one common goal. Then, for God's sake, let this organization support the union movement!

JOHN L. AGAIN

Bad News for Negro Workers, But Mine Leader Must Be Reckoned With

BY HORACE R. CAYTON

JOHN L. LEWIS is bad news to Negro workers. There was a time when he was a great man for the CIO. He had a long history of amicable race relations in the labor movement behind him. He single-handedly cracked the North-South wage differential. He is not helping the war effort. In the world. He is the largest union leader in the world. But charitable as you can be, Lewis is bad news to Negro workers now.

In 1936, Lewis led his miners out of the American Federation of Labor and was a moving force in the formation of the CIO. That was a great day for Negro workers. Not only did CIO have more liberal racial policy but they made the American Federation of Labor bid for Negro support as a racial group, would have been held out union so that eventually it will do, even if Lewis takes the miners back to the American Federation of Labor, is to stay in the unions and to continue to fight for/with the liberal progressive force of the union he held out of non-discrimi-change its character.

Mr. Cayton

President of the automobile workers, the next most powerful labor union, has kept his organization from giving labor a tremendous black eye. But make no mistake about it. Lewis is the man who still has to be reckoned with. This last deal may make him emerge from the war, the greatest figure in labor. He is an opportunist, politically reactionary, tolerant to racial prejudice but he articulates the frustrations of the American workers and speaks his dissatisfactions with the Administration. The CIO is torn with internal dissension and will either be destroyed or welded together in a united front under the impact of Lewis' new maneuver.

ONE Negro organization advised not to strike when Lewis ordered the mines. This is pretty irresponsible advice. Lewis is vicious, but the fact of the matter maybe he is raising problems real to them. To have feelings of many of the workers in the mass production industries break with the union as a racial group, would



35i-1943

CIO

Union Cites Hitler Tactics of Cafe Owner Who Blocked Workers

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

National Labor Board members heard testimony last week of violations of the Wagner Act by T. A. O'Donnell, proprietor of O'Donnel Sea Grill and Restaurant.

The complaint was filed by the United Cafeteria and Restaurant Workers, Local 471, C.I.O., which was conducting the union campaign.

Six employees testified that Jimmie O'Donnell had seized union application cards and had fired three persons, Alberta Washington, Lizzie Jones and William Alexander, known to have been actively engaged in organizing the employees there.

The O'Donnells attempted to prove that these persons had been discharged for inefficiency, through bringing in several Negro workers, Jordan Fenwick, Gordon Wilson, John Lacey, and a Mr. Commack who testified that they had urged the dismissal of their fellow-workers for poor work.

In addition the management produced questionable employment records and time cards to further prove their point. Such records proved of little value because they were not in the handwriting of the discharged workers.

At this point the trial examiner moved the hearing from the hearing room of the Labor Board to the bedside of a former waitter, Garlan Taboru, now confined at 1418 S Street, Northwest, who testified that Alberta Washington had been an excellent bus girl and had never worked under waiter Commack. Commack had previously testified that he had ordered Alberta's dismissal for inefficiency. Garlan testified that one of the witnesses against Alberta was not a regular employee at the time Alberta was fired.

For days the Labor Board notonly heard testimony of the Hitlerite, anti-union tactics of the O'Donnell management but the hearing revealed other facts that substantiated the employees' charge that they are treated as slaves. Lawyer Sostiello, for the management, volunteered to report that wages were as low as $42.50 per month or $10.62 per week.

The shocking conditions existing at O'Donnell's makes organization a necessity. One worker reported to the union office that she had worked 12 full days and had received $12.00. This worker further reported when she requested a release that was denied. Scores of other workers have complained to the union that they are promised a fair wage when they take a job there, but never receive these wages.

ICC HOLDS RED CAPS ESSENTIAL RAIL WORKERS

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

CIO Transport Union Wins 3-Year Fight In Tariff Case

WASHINGTON. — After a three year fight between the CIO United Transport Service Employees and the eastern and southern railroads over the 10 cent fee charged passengers for the handling of hand-bag-gage, the full Interstate Commerce Commission last week reaffirmed a decision sustaining the position of Atty. Leon M. Despres, general counsel for the UTSEA which resolved itself into a new significant victory for the CIO in the railroad industry.

The test case involved the Dayton Union Railway company. In its decision, the commission ordered the company to file on or before December 15, 1943, a tariff covering the charges made to passengers for red cap service. This order covers all railroads making the charge.

Much more significant than the tariff issue in this case is the one involving the question of the status of red caps in the industry. The railroads contended that red cap service was a personal service to passengers and as such it was not necessary to file a tariff for the fees collected for the handling of baggage.

Part of Service

The UTSEA through its counsel, Leon M. Despres, contended that red cap service was an integral part of passenger transportation service and was necessary for the maintenance of an orderly station and the quick movement of passengers to and from trains. Thus as a bona-fide transportation service, fees collected by red caps from passengers for the railroads were subject to the tariff regulations of the I.C.C., the UTSEA contended. It was around this issue of the relationship of the red cap to transportation service that the real fight resolved.

The decision of the Interstate Commerce Commission supported every contention of the UTSEA in the three-year-old controversy which had its beginnings in the historic Stopher case involving the Cincinnati Union Terminal company. This was the case of a passenger, Mrs. Ida M. Stopher, refusing to pay the 10 cent charge on the grounds that it was illegal and discriminatory. The UTSEA filed formal proceedings in support of the passenger.

As an integral part of transportation service, this decision places the red cap as an essential employee in the railroad industry and upon an equal level with all other necessary non-operating employees in the industry. It also brings to a successful close the fight instituted in 1937 by the union against the "concessionarie" status of these workers who worked for gratuities alone.

UAW Renews Its No-Strike Pledge

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

By George Morris
(Daily Worker Staff Correspondent)

BUFFALO, Oct. 10.—The convention of the CIO United Automobile Workers ended today with adoption of a resolution pledging to continue the no-strike pledge "without any qualification."

The resolution, recommended unanimously by the Resolutions Committee, was the last ofised qualification of the no-strike the hotly contested issues thatpledge was one of the principal have kept this convention of 2,000grounds upon which the Reuther-delegates in tensity for seven days.Leonard forces have attracted the

The no-strike pledge carried bysupport of several groups and delean overwhelming majority despitegations. But this morning, with a vigorous effort from a number ofelection over, the Reuther people instructed delegations to defeat itleft the Trotzkyites holding the bag and the usual try of the Trotzkyiteson the issue. Walter Reuther did to exploit the sentiment.

DEBATE NEGRO ISSUE

The last fling at a spirited debate not speak on the question. An earlier formulation of a resolution came on the Negro question when supported by the Reuther forces, the resolution on "minorities containing an ambiguous face-rights," also adopted by an over-saving qualification, was changed whelming majority, came on the to be acceptable of the minority of floor this morning. The auto union the Resolutions Committee when fully maintained its traditional it was read out.

record of unqualified support to The resolution adopted resolves: Negro rights and carried it to a "That this convention of the still higher degree. But the stench UAW-CIO reaffirms without any of the same poison that led to qualification its no-strike pledge to Detroit's anti-Negro violence, was the nation and its fighting men to also reflected in speeches of several maintain continuous and uninterdelegates who wanted to "qualify" rupted production of materials nec-Negro rights, and in some 30 hand essary for the successful prosecuvotes that were raised against it. tion of the war.

Other resolutions adopted resolve "Be it further resolved that in that the President be "vigorously those plants where management is supported" in efforts to roll back not bargaining in good faith and prices to September, 1942 levels. is taking advantage of the war

A resolution on the War Labor situation and labor's no-strike Board called for scrapping of the pledge to destroy collective bar-"Little Steel" formula and for gaining, the international executive stabilization through an "industry board shall, on order to insure con-wide agreement" in the auto indus-tinuous production, demand gov-try with work and wage guarantees ernment operation of such plants and a post-war security fund. under the war powers of the Presi-

REUTHER SILENT

A stack of other resolutions, in-dent and not under the Smith-cluding many on major questions, Connally Act, and with full guar-was thrown into the lap of the antee of all collective bargaining executive board, in the last minute rights for the workers in the plants stampede for adjournment in time and with the elimination of all to make Monday's work schedule. profits to the employers.

The no-strike resolution was "Be it finally resolved: That this passed after strong pleas by Presi-convention urges the incoming in-dent R. J. Thomas and Secretary-ternational officers and interna-Treasurer George F. Addes. A prom-tional executive board and all local unions to use more fully labor's most powerful weapon of political action for the protection of labor's position and for the nationwide adoption of policies required for

NEGRO BOARD MEMBER

...union's "firm opposition to any ...form of racial discrimination" and ...ming followed on-renews the pledge to carry on the ...ted convention de-fight for "the rights of all minority ...nd influence upon the industry, the resolution voices ...mbers—the bulk of "sharp condemnation of all evi-...of Southern origin dence of mob hatred against Ne-

...working over there."

THOMAS APPEAL

It was after Trotzkyite Emil ...its membership since the inception problem this morning Mazey of Local 212, Detroit, de-of its no-strike pledge," said Addes other very heated ...livered his speech for "outright ...This is an indication that the debate last night over ...opposition to the no-strike pledge" ...for a Negro board ...that President Thomas made his ...workers support it. ...appeal. "Don't tell me you can go to the proposal was lost. The ...

Addes warned the delegates that unorganized aircraft plants which touched at the very ...are loaded with women, if you re-race problem and will ...voke the no-strike pledge. They are have a profound in-...some employers are "hoping and in the plants, because the ma-fluence upon the industry, the ...praying" that the no-strike pledge the million members of all evi-...s voted down so they could pro-members of their families are them new and of Southern ...

gro citizens and people of other minorities," calls for federal investigation of all such instances and provides:

UNION ENFORCEMENT

"That all instigators of, participants in 'hate strikes' be immediately disciplined by the local union officials with the unqualified support of the international union."

The federal government is urged to eliminate discrimination in the armed services and adequate Negro representation is ordered in the staffs of all departments of the union.

It appeared that the resolution would pass without a discussion when Thomas issued a challenge to those who had been saying in locals that he "railroaded" such previous resolutions.

"I know there have been moves to remove me as president because of my stand on the Negro question," said Thomas referring to hate strikes he denounced:

"I now ask any delegate in the convention to take the floor on this resolution right now."

BOO CHAUVINIST

Up jumped Walter Ruddock, of West Side, Local 174, Detroit. "He assured the convention that he believes in equality for Negroes in the union, "but not social equality," because there is a "natural barrier" and he wouldn't have a Negro with him at the same dinner table. A powerful boo greeted him and there was condemnation on all sides.

Another speaker Thomas smoked out, from Dodge Local 3, expressed "pride" that he has friends among Negroes and ate at the same table with them "in public" but he shouted "have you got guts enough to tell the rank and file home that you voted for this?" He, too, wanted to draw the line against social equality. Still a third speaker, delegate Steffes of Local 75, joined in the "qualification" chorus before several speakers, all white, came down upon them with crushing replies.

To the hundred-old Negro delegates at this convention it must have been extremely humiliating to listen to the klan-like insults, but they observed with calm satisfacton the stand this most powerful of unions took against these elements.

Last night's discussion was over a long-standing issue of Negro representation on the board. This time, along with the usual confusion on such question, it was distorted by the factional situation. The Reuther-controlled majority on the constitution committee agreed to a "minorities department" with its head appointed by President Thomas. The Addes-Frankensteen minority also called for a minorities department with the head to be elected by the convention and to be a member of the board.

With all four top officers and many from the floor participating, two general viewpoints were expressed wih the line-up, essentially, along caucus lines.

The Reuther argument ran true to the Social Democratic line that giving "special" attention to the Negro problem and "special" representation to Negroes is a sort of "jim crowism" in reverse. If the Negroes are to be given a special board member "why not to women, Jews, Catholics and others?" argued Victor Reuther. This was amplified by the charge that putting the problem of combatting race hatred in the hands of a department would take the responsibility from all officers of the union.

"The problem is not on the board, it is in the shops," shouted Walter Reuther.

Addes speaking for the minority, said that responsibility would not be lifted from every officer of the union, but that each member of the board now has a special regional or national assignment.

"We should have an individual who would help the board to understand these problems and convey them to the board," he said.

Thomas supported the Reuther position. The discussion was on a constructive plane, after two of the very few Reuther supporters among the Negroes delivered provocative speeches and indulged in personal abuse of other Negro delegates, and against Frankensteen and Addes.

This caused an extremely tense atmosphere that caused many delegates to regret that the question came on the floor. After some quiet was restored, Shelton Tappes brought the discussion back to real issues.

"I for one would like to see a Negro on the Board, but if we have to play politics with it and cause division then better not to have it," he said.

"Some say that it is also a problem of women, Jews, Catholics, but that's ridiculous. Catholics, Jews and women could have gotten rooms in St. Louis hotels."

This was an example that all understood. The convention was originally scheduled in St. Louis.

Tappes, secretary of Local 600 said he is not interested in the post under discussion.

"I am a leader of 81,000 workers. I have a big job to do," he said. In advocating a Negro board member he added, he is "fighting for the entire union, not only for Negroes." He pointed out that it would be a powerful weapon in approaching unorganized Negro workers.

You'll be able to go to a Negro worker and say 'We have a Negro on our board'."

Because of the factional situation, those opposed to the majority and minority reports carried the session for neither drew the necessary votes.

Comments On Men And Things

Mullings, S. C., Enterprise
October 7, 1943
By Spectator

The Negro is being taken into the C. I. O. and I quote from Collier's of September 18, 1943:

"The negro in war industry is joining his labor unions and waging successful battle against Jim Crow locals. The C. I. O., in its determination to fill the membership vacancies created by the withdrawal of the United Mine Workers, is not only accepting him on complete equality with the white worker but has set up a negro bureau within its own supreme council. And when John L. Lewis is accepted back into the A. F. of L., the negro expects fully that Lewis will move to liberalize that elder labor organization's negro policies."

The colored people have advanced remarkably in seventy eight years—SEVENTY EIGHT YEARS; but some people would try to do even more IN ONE YEAR; and they think it can be done by law, by force. Foolish, foolish people. What the colored people have accomplished they have accomplished with the cooperation of most White people.

The politicians have done nothing for the Negro since 1863. And even that was a mere act of military strategy, though no one would wish to undo it today.

La Scott, Robeson On "Freedom" Rally

Pittsburgh Courier

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 5—Hazel Scott and Paul Robeson were two of the featured artists at the CIO-sponsored Freedom Rally held Thursday evening at the Philharmonic auditorium. Keynote of the rally was the union's presentation of its legislative program and of their platform against discrimination of minority, religious and racial groups at home.

Seek Negro On CIO Committee

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

DETRCIT—(W N S)—

Leading Detroit citizens left this week to attend the International Convention of the UAW-CIO which is convening in Buffalo. All of the Negro Delegation were greatly concerned with the election of a Negro to the Executive Board of the International. Shelton Tappes, Recording Secretary of Ford local 600 was greatly concerned over the attempt in certain quarters led by Parckard local 190, to create a spearate Negro Board member, to be elected at large.

Tappes, along with other Negro leaders felt that any attempt to establishe a separate position for a Negro member of the board might establish a bad precedent which could be very easily carried through to other CIO positions. As a result, they felt that it was their duty to oppose this attempt and to rather work on the theory of electing a Negro to one of the existing positions on the board. Among those attending the convention were:

Golster Current, Executive Secretary, NAACP; Juda Drob, Michigan, Executive Sec., of Socialist Party! Hosea Young, President of the New Steel Fdry Unit of Ford Local 600; Cleveland Peck; Walter Hardin, Inter-racial Representative; Oscar Noble, Int'l Rep.; Horace Sheffield, Int'l Rep.; William H. Levitt, Educational Director, UAW; James H. Wishart, Research Director, UAW; Edward Levenson, Publicity Director, UAW.

Negro and other minority group members must be fully integrated into union life. They must be active and given full responsibilities in all phases of union life—and not looked to only for help in "racial matters."

CIO Takes Strong Stand In Anti-Prejudice Fight

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30—(ANP)—Pointing to the plan of action laid out by the United Automobile Workers for combatting race discrimination, George L. P. Weaver, administrator of the CIO Anti-Discrimination committee, declared that the CIO for International Organization has been and intends to remain in the forefront of those elements opposing discrimination, and the whole membership and the community at large. Getting down both within and outside of the unions stand on the question, the practice segregation in work ranks of labor. Its where must be attacked the specific to specifics, it says:

Weaver was referring to the local sources of discrimination as **PLANS REVEALED**

September issue of "Ammunition," well as intensify the broader battle. "Plants that are not now making official publication of the CIO against ignorance and prejudice," full use of Negro labor; plants that department of the education the unsigned article begins. Its are not upgrading Negroes on the International Union, of which R. J. tion is the "one-day conference, practice segregation in working Thomas is president. The conference is called not for other shop facilities are sabotaging

STRONG UNION ACTION the purpose of arguing about the production, lowering morale, etc.

"Faced with the responsibility unions stand on the question, the creasing absenteeism, etc. Conferand necessity for strong union action continues, but for the purpose of planning concerted efforts ence discussion should lay plans to to prevent further disgraceful to remove particular "bottlenecks" such practices, making the union position clear to occurrences such as the insurrec and to develop the education of the management and to all workers.

351-1943

CIO

How Macy's Was Organized

APR 18 1943

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.



UNIONISM WINS at R. H. Macy's—Leaders of the CIO union at the biggest retail store in America examine the contract just won with management. Left to right, Fred ("Scottie") Cameron, Marcella Loring, Sam Kovenetsky, Bill Goltz, and Guss Medin. Cameron and Miss Medin work in the store as salesclerks. Kovenetsky is union manager and Miss Loring and Goltz are organizers. [THE WORKER PHOTO]

By DOROTHY LOEB

THERE'S union organization today at New York's R. H. Macy & Company, biggest retail store in America, where sales clerks from busy basement to topmost reaches paraphrased a famous slogan and declared: "It's smart to be organized."

Not only is the CIO sole collective bargaining agent for the 3,000 men and women who stand behind the counters in aisle-jammed Macy's but it operates today under a contract in which two-thirds of the departments are closed shop and the prospects are that the rest will be closed shop soon too.

A formal card check to which management had agreed registered the victory of Local 1-S (the "s" stands for store) of the United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employes of America, but years of hard organizational work, mostly by Macy's own rank and file, went into that victory.

APR 18 1943

AS far back as 1937, a handful of union-conscious men and women had organizing under way. That handful included several of those who lead the organization today, men like Sam Kovetsky, manager of the local, and Bill Goltz, one of two business agents.

They faced tough going. Management had a "rapid fire" anti-labor policy. That isn't just a figure of speech. You were fired as rapidly as management found out you were in the union.

Non-selling personnel made the break first. Twelve hundred of them organized three years ago and obtained a union contract. Three years ago, too, selling employes got bold enough to come out in the open and issue the first leaflet with floor representatives' names boldly signed to it.

Goltz, who worked for the store nine and a half years as a silk salesman before he became a full-timer for the union and helped lead the organizing campaign, remembers that day well. His name was one of those signed to the union handbill. He was "scared to death" that he would be fired, he recalls, but the Wagner Act was in existence, none of the signers was dismissed and people got more respect for the union because it had come out into the open.

Since then, and especially since war broke out employment turnover at the store has been terrific.

Hundreds left for service in the armed forces. Others left for jobs in war industry. School girls, housewives, army wives and scores of others not only new to selling but new to work took their places. Some had never thought of belonging to a union. Others even brought hostile anti-union ideas with them to the store.

Several factors helped swing this heterogeneous biggest selling unit in the country into the union column. First was the determination of rank and filers in the store to have a union, according to the local officials. They credit the mass participation by determined Macy people with main responsibility for the victory.

Then, too, every organizer on the job came from Macy ranks, was known to many of the workers and knew the store to which they were bringing their union message. Kovenetsky had been employed there 14 years in the receiving department before he quit to become local manager.

Marcella Loring, a business agent who also helped lead the drive to victory, worked in Macy's millinery department for two years before she joined the staff.

Another important contributing factor was the top-to-bottom participation of the furniture department, where the average pay is better than $80 a week and earnings range from $4,000 to $8,000 a year.

Frederick William Wilson Cameron, whose long name is shortened to "Scottie" by his union associates, a representative of that furniture department, says his shopmates realized that protection for the store as a whole was vital to their own protection. He's been a union member two years, served on the organizing committee, is now a member of the local's executive board.



WILLIAM ATKINSON
President

Macy workers had help in their organizing from other union department store employes, who recognized that unionizing the Ford of the department store field would be a tremendous incentive to union-building throughout the country.

APR 18 1943

They organized a city-wide organizing committee to help and Nicky Carnes, business agent of Local 1250, which includes Hearns, Oppenheim Collins and other stores, led its work. That helped a lot.

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THERE'S another factor that demonstrated to Macy workers that unionism is democracy in action, and called to them for affiliation. President of this biggest retail union is William Atkinson, a Negro elevator starter. Popular, capable, educated (he's a lawyer by profession), he played a big part in the organizing campaign, directed its activities and helped plan its strategy.

There are some 200 Negro employes in the store, running elevators, handling food, working in receiving and filling departments. Many of them, like Atkinson, have educational qualifications that surpass the majority of their associates. Jim Crow prevents them from getting the jobs they're qualified to fill. Not one works on selling yet.

Election of Atkinson as president isn't only a tribute to him and his qualifications but to the membership which welcomes his leadership, and because it kicked barriers to one side has made management begin to do the same.

It was only after the union set the example and elected the president of its choice that most of the 200 Negro employes got their jobs, union officials say. Now the local is determined to get a real job done on discrimination. Six months ago, a meeting was held to break through Jim Crow on selling and other posts and now that recognition is established and a contract won, some big achievements can be looked for on this score.

APR 18 1943

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Vicksburg Mill Hands Choose CIO

APR 24 1943

VICKSBURG, Miss. — (ANP) — Ignoring mob threats made by mill guards and police officials, the 1,200 workers of Lumber company chose the national Wood Workers of America, CIO, as their bargaining agent in a one-sided election held here Friday by the National Labor Relations board.

The vote was 472 to 32. More than 1,000 of the company's 1,200 employes are Negroes.

Simultaneous with the announcement of the election's outcome the FBI disclosed that agents were making investigation of the beatings.

National attention was focused on the lumber mill last week with the disclosure of the brutal beatings and intimidation inflicted on two organizers, Claude Welch, white, and Inter-Frank Davis, Negro. Both were abducted, carried into some woods and severely beaten. Davis was warned to flee for his life.

HOLDS CIO WAR RELIEF POST

Bystander
Des Moines; Iowa



Otha Kirk, comely office manager of the National CIO Committee for American and Allied War Relief's Detroit branch, who has won applause for her distinct efficiency. Truth of the matter is, at least a half-dozen union organizations in the Auto City would like to do some polite labor pirating to secure her services. Miss Kirk, a popular figure in labor circles, was educated in Detroit and worked previously with the Michigan Unemployment Commission. She confesses to a love for horseback riding.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

CIO TO NAME ANTI-JIM - CROW SECRETARY

MAR 21 1943

WASHINGTON, Mar. 18—(AN P)—Formal anouncement is due shortly from CIO headquarters that an administrative secretary has been appointed to carry out the mandate of last year's convention when the organization firmly denounced discrimination in the ranks of labor and appointed an anti-discrimination commitee to root it out in its own yard.

The committee, of which Willard S. Townsend, president of the United Transport Service Employees association, is chairman, has already authorized the appointment, and the executive council of the CIO has given its approval.

The probability is that George Weaver, former Washington representative for the UTSEA and curently a member of the CIO's Allied War Relief committee, will be given the job of coordinating existing efforts initiating new ones to defeat discriminatory practices within the organization. Weaver is now spending part of his time completing a law course at Howard university.

MAR 21 1943

The announcement will come, according to reliable information, not so much as an answer to recent criticism that has been levelled at the committee for "inaction," but rather as the result of close study of what would be the best method of operation. It was considered undesirable to set up "segregated machinery," as a CIO spokesman characterized these demands so long as existing media might be utilized. Many locals of the union already have similar committees and have been waging a fight.

MAR 21 1943

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

City CIO Delegation Hits House Absentees

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, June 29. — Three hundred New York citizens—representing 500,000 of their fellow CIO members—came down to Washington today with one message to their congressmen:

Support President Roosevelt's win-the war leadership and stay on the job in Congress.

Aroused at the absence of 13 New York City congressmen last Friday which might have turned the tide against overriding the President's veto on the Smith-Connally bill, the CIO delegates really hit out against absenteeism among the New York delegation.

Every delegate had a statement in his hand, which they termed a "report card," showing how New York congressmen voted and whether they were present on the vote on the OPA and OWI appropriations, the Smith-Connally veto, and the bill to bar subsidies.

Splitting up into twenty-six groups, one delegation to each congressman, and the two congressmen-at-large, the CIO lobby stressed four main points in each interview:

Support President Roosevelt's two billion dollar subsidy program; vote for restoration of OPA, OCD, OWI and Department of Labor appropriations; support the Gavagan anti-lynch bill, the anti-poll tax bill, Congressman Walter Lynch's bill prohibiting anti-Semitism, and Department of Justice investigation into race riots; and remain in Washington while Congress is in session.

A delegation of five leaders of the CIO lobby met with Colonel Marvin McIntyre, the President's secretary, who received them very cordially. The group presented a statement pledging whole-hearted support behind the President's leadership "in these new times which try men's souls" and urged him to take his case to the people. McIntyre indicated the President might soon make a radio speech.

Another delegation which went to the Department of Justice met with the head of the Civil Liberties Unit and demanded an immediate investigation to focus the spotlight on the fifth column activities behind the Detroit riots.

EXCITING GATHERING

It was a very unusual and exciting gathering to take place in a congressional committee room. Rep. Samuel Dickstein, New York Democrat, who is chairman of the House Immigraton and Naturalization Committee, had loaned the room to the delegation.

Congressman Dickstein addressed the delegates and stated he "was only too glad to cooperate with a group of citizens who in my opinion are fighting for right and just cause." He stated that he would work for repeal of the Smith-Connally Act and demanded that steps be taken to prevent future race riots from occurring.

Congressman Walter Lynch of the Bronx also came in to address the delegates and get a cheering ovation when he demanded action to "get relief for the people in our district in so far as the mounting cost of living is concerned." He expressed the sentiment of all the delegates when he declared that "the only way to stem the tide of inflation is to back President Roosevelt's policies to the limit."

REPORT ON INTERVIEW

The main conclusion expressed at the delegates were particularly outraged at the jim crow discrimination in the Capitol Restaurant congressmen from New York City prevented Negro members and that the only way to get it was through CIO councils and that trade union- the coming primaries.

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Declaration on Racial Discrimination to President Franklin D. Roosevelt

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

JAN 23 1943

The war against Fascism demands the total mobilization of all the American People ★

WHILE ANY section *of* the people is kept from participation in the war effort, there is danger *of* an Axis victory. ★ Those in our nation who cause discrimination because *of* race, creed or color are denying to millions *of* Americans their patriotic right and duty *of* helping defend their country and crushing the enemies *of* all humanity.

★ Those who cause discrimination, or in any way foster discrimination in industry, in trade unions, or in any other phase *of* our economic life, aid the enemies *of* our nation. ★ To help put an end, once and for all, to racial discrimination, and so help to build our nation's unity, we, the undersigned, state and county officers and international representatives *of* the Congress *of* Industrial Organizations in California, *do hereby make the following declarations* JAN 23 1943

(1) The doors *of* all California CIO unions stand open to the men and women *of* all minority groups, regardless *of* their race, creed or color

(2) We will work for the complete integration into industry *of* all workers who are members *of* minority groups, in accordance with your Executive Order 8802 JAN 23 1943

(3) We will rally our CIO movement for the establishment *of* the Four Freedoms for all nations, minority groups and colonial peoples now as a vital part *of* total victory

H. R. Bridges — California Director CIO
Merrill — Regional Coordinator, Int. Union Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers
Pat Chesnut — Secy.-Treas. California CIO Council
Philip M. Connelly — President, California CIO Council
Marcel Scherer — International Vice Pres., Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists & Technicians
Jeff Kibre — California Representative, International Fishermen & Allied Workers of America
M. E. Travis — International Representative, International Union, Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers
Paul Heide — Secretary, Alameda CIO Council
A. J. Shippey — Director, District 3, Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee
W. J. Decker — Secretary, San Diego CIO Council
Jack Kauffman — International Representative, United Furniture Workers of America
H. C. Bright — President, Los Angeles CIO Council
Leo Turner — International Representative, United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers of America
Ralph D. Goyer — West Coast Representative, National Maritime Union
Karl Jensen — Secretary, San Joaquin CIO Council
George Nelson — Secretary, San Francisco CIO Council
J. E. Jeffery — International Representative, State County and Municipal Workers of America
Grace M. Mathias — Secretary, California CIO Auxiliary Council
Allen Applegarth — Secretary, Contra Costa CIO Council
Irwin Uber — California Director, Oil Workers Organizing Campaign
Lew Michener — Regional Director, United Automobile, Aircraft & Agricultural Implement Workers
Frank E. Thompson — Secretary, Sacramento CIO Council
W. B. Taylor — Director, Aircraft Div., United Automobile, Aircraft & Agricultural Implement Workers

CIO

Regional Coordinator, Int. Union Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers

James L. Daugherty — International Representative, United Workers Organizing Committee

Steve Murdock — Secretary, Santa Clara CIO Council

Alice Balmer — West Coast Representative, United Office and Professional Workers of America

James P. Smith — Representative, United Steelworkers of America

Luisa Moreno — International Representative, United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing & Allied Workers

Theo. Lamar Olsen — President, California CIO Auxiliary Council

James S. Martin — Pres. Dist. No. 1 Council, United Rubber Workers

W. W. Allen — International Representative, Oil Workers International Union

Eugene Paton — Secy.-Treas., International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union

John R. Hawkins — United Transport Service Employees of America

Bruce Risley — International Representative, American Communications Assn.

James G. Thimmes — Regional Director, United Steelworkers of America

New Republic
New York, N. Y.

APR 19 1943

Uncle Sam Is Interested

The experience of Welch was practically similar. He was decoyed out of his lodging house by word sent in that Frank Davis wanted to see him. According to his sworn statement, a man named Lum, chief guard of the lumber company, then stuck a revolver into his face and forced him into a car driven by a deputy sheriff named Lucket. Several other men were in the party, one of them the brother of the mill superintendent, Hattaway. Welch, also, was taken into the country, handcuffed to a tree and beaten to the accompaniment of a stream of obscene abuse by Lum. He, like Davis, was threatened with death if he stayed in Vicksburg. He was finally set free.

APR 19 1943

Until very recently, this story would have ended here. No punishment would have been given to those guilty of these brutal attacks. Now, however, the case is different. As Helen Fuller pointed out in The New Republic of February 15, the courts have recently interpreted the federal Constitution so as to bring in the Department of Justice in cases like this. The Southern Workers' Defense League, of Atlanta, investigated the case and its secretary, Frank McCallister, brought it to the attention of the Civil Liberties Unit of the Department of Justice. It looks as though the people who beat Welch and Davis may be in trouble. We hope so.

APR 19 1943

New Republic
New York, N. Y.

APR 19 1943

Vicksburg and Washington

An ugly instance of anti-union violence recently took place in Vicksburg, Mississippi. The Anderson-Tully Lumber Company, of that city, has 1,200 employees, 90 percent of them Negroes. The CIO has been trying to organize them, and sent two men to do this work, Claud Welch, a white man, and Frank Davis, a Negro. Their efforts were sufficiently success-

About this time, according to a sworn affidavit by Davis, he was pointed out to city police on the street by one Hattaway, the mill superintendent. He was taken to the city jail and kept there twenty-four hours, without any food, and without any formal charges being made against him. At the end of that time, he heard someone at the rear of the police station say, "I'm ready for your CIO man." The chief of police then took Davis from his cell and pushed him out the back door, where three armed men were waiting for him. They slugged him and handcuffed him, threw him

three men took turns beating him with weighted hose, meanwhile asking him about his work for the CIO and threatening to kill him if he ever came back to Vicksburg. After a heavy beating, he was put back in the car, driven to another place, flogged again, released and told to run for his life. Shots were fired after him. Davis was so badly beaten that he required hospitalization in Memphis.

On The Labor Front

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

FEB 21 1943

Finds Negroes Forging Ahead

FEB 21 1943

By GEORGE F. McCRAY
(FOR ANP)

OSCAR WILSON, Negro, international representative, and executive board member of the CIO's Packinghouse Workers Organizing committee, reports that of some 500 delegates attending the union's wage and policy conference, nearly 100 were Negroes.

The conference met in Chicago, February 18-20 inclusive. Negro union leaders are playing a leading role in guiding the union to adopt new wage and collective bargaining policies. To code with the refusal of the War Labor board to grant a badly needed 5½ cents per hour wage increase to 160,000 Negro and white workers in the packing industry. The union is expected to restate its demand for a wage increase on the basis of a constantly rising cost of living.

FEB 21 1943

SOME NEGRO OFFICIALS

A canvass of the delegates revealed a majority of the Negroes attending the conference were union presidents and secretaries. Some of these Negroes are presidents of the largest local unions in the meat packing industry. In Chicago, for example, where roughly 8,000 Negro workers are employed in the industry, Negro leaders are the official spokesmen for over 26,000 in four plants alone.

Heading the list was Doc Williams, president of a local having 6,000 members at Wilson and Company; Jeff Beckley heads a local of 12,000 members at Armour and Company, Phil Weightman leads a local union of 7,000 employes of Swift and Company; and at the Cudahy Packing Company Ben Collins is official spokesman for 1,200 workers. Even in the smaller plants like Peter Brennan and Illinois Packing Company, for example, the presidents are Negroes. Minor positions in the union held by the Negro brothers are too numerous to mention here. Leondies McDonald is regional director for the union in the states of Michigan and Ohio.

FEB 21 1943

The prominence of the Negro leader in the P. W. O. C. is obviously an unusual situation and explanation is in order. For not quite a generation ago Negroes were regarded as bitter foes of unionism the packing industry.

In the face of the genuine support Negroes have given the P. W. O. C., it appears they were opposed to the narrow, half-hearted, and prejudiced organizing methods which weakened the attempts at organizing the yards in 1904, 1919, 1921 and in 1934.

FEB 21 1943

FAIR PLAY GETS RESULTS

In 1937, the P. W. O. C. adopted and in the years that followed stuck to a rigid non-discrimination policy. Though the policy required a great deal of explaining and interpreting, it early won the enthusiastic support of both white and Negro workers. As a matter of fact, Negroes took the lead in building the union.

Did the white workers welcome this aggressive union support by Negroes? Most certainly they did! The sacrifices and the labor which Negroes put into building the union in cooperation with their white fellow workers, have contributed more to better race relations than have many of our more pretentious programs for promoting interracial goodwill.

FEB 21 1943

More specifically there is just one explanation or how the Negro worker "arrived" in packing. He took full advantage of the opportunity to work, struggle and sacrifice with his white brother in a common effort to get something which each of them wanted, but which neither could get without the other's support.

Perhaps it is the fundamental soundness of this last point that makes some people in this country afraid to give up jim crow in the army and navy.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

CIO Union Fires Two Who Started Jim Crow Strike

AUG 14 1943

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—Charles Schroeder, president of local 121 of the United Gas, Coke and Chemical Workers (CIO), announced Wednesday that two shop stewards, found guilty of instigating a two-day wildcat strike last month in protest against the promotion of a Negro worker, have been expelled from the union.

AUG 14 1943

Frank Fox and Otto Chido were the stewards found guilty of starting the strike at Acme Baking Corporation, when Segundo Corchado, the colored employe, was transferred from elevator operator to a position in the spreading room.

The CIO Mistake

JAN 30 1943

BY HORACE R. CAYTON

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

JEOPARDIZES SUPPORT OF THE RACE BY REFUSAL TO GIVE COMMITTEE ON BIAS FUNDS TO OPERATE

WHILE we are talking about the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee's fizzling out and failing to produce, let me tell you about another committee. In your criticism of President Roosevelt for failing to live up to the expectations of Negroes and liberal whites by allowing (or causing) the railroad hearings to be called off, let me add the name of another who has let the "brother" down. I'm talking about the Congress for Industrial Organization and Mr. Philip Murray.



Mr. Cayton

I reported from Boston when I attended the last national convention of the CIO, that the Congress and its leaders had taken an uncompromising stand for the Negro the like of which has seldom been witnessed in this country. One very important item on the agenda of the convention was the appointment of the Committee on Racial Discrimination. Negro and White labor leaders felt that this committee was an instrument which could be employed to fight discrimination within the ranks of labor and as a leverage against recalcitrant employers. With Murray as the undisputed leader of the Congress the Committee's success, it was felt, was assured.

Well, the Committee met last week and issued its first public statement. What was the statement? The same old tosh we have been getting for years from the A. F. of L., from the Administration and from employers associations. What did it sound like? Well, like Ted Poston of O. W. I. when he was making the naming of a small freight boat after Booker T. Washington sound like the Administration was determined to go all out for Negro rights. Or like Charles S. Johnson of Fisk when he tries to tell Southerners that they are fascist without mentioning either word. Well that's what we got from Philip Murray and from the Committee on Racial Discrimination.

JAN 30 1943

OH yes, they were against discrimination in industry and in the CIO unions. What were they going to do about it—as far as I know, nothing. There were no provisions made for a staff, there was no appropriation for the payment of a staff, there was no program of action—nothing but more of the same talk that was put out in Boston.

JAN 30 1943

NO MONEY AVAILABLE

Of course one can't prove that Murray ordered this, any more than one could prove that the President was behind the cancelling of the railroad hearings. Everyone knows, however, that Murray had his hatchet man to do the knifing. Murray's McNutt was James B. Carey, secretary of the CIO. In the committee meetings Carey insisted that there was not enough money for a staff, that there were other more important questions which would need first budgetary consideration and for all I know wrote the stupid release which appeared in The Courier. At a critical moment when the militant members of the committee demanded a mere five thousand dollar a year budget and were about to push Brother Carey in a corner, a voice (and a dusky voice, my friend) suggested that the committee go on for three months without money, without staff and without program to see what it could accomplish. Carey then adjourned the meeting, went to lunch with Murray for further instruction, and laid the committee on ice in the afternoon.

WELL, that's the story. Perhaps the CIO does not have a lot of money but this question was important enough to hold the attention of the national convention for the most of an afternoon session in Boston. Maybe there are other things which should come first, but the way I look at it, if the Congress loses the support of Negro workers and the Negro public opinion, they will have lost their most important ally.

JAN 30 1943

MURRAY NEEDS SUPPORT OF RACE

I hate to say it but I believe this demonstrates a number of things which I hoped were not true. I thought that Murray realized that the Negro will no longer be satisfied with talk and no action. I had hoped that Murray was wise enough to know that he had to have Negro support or he could not weather the attacks of the A. F. of L.; of J. Lewis and the slow capitulation of the Administration to big business. And I mean by this that Murray and the CIO need the support of not only Negro trade unionists but the entire political strength of the Negro people.

I FELT that Murray was one man, representing one organization, who was ready to make an ally of Negroes and not just talk about giving them justice; who would make common cause with them as a full fledged partner in their fight against the common enemy: the poll tax, reactionary legislation and the suppression of civil liberties.

JAN 30 1943

NEED ONLY $1,000

Well, Brother Murray, there are a lot of mistakes being made now. Lots of people are digging their political graves and crucifying liberal hopes and ideals by throwing over the Negro. Lots of people don't realize that the Negro wants action, not words. You can't win without the Negro and what you have done has not reassured him that you are ready to join hands with him as you claimed.

BEFORE it's to late, try to readjust your thinking about your "brother in black." Go to him and ask his aid as an ally, a partner and an equal. Before it is too late, don't make the mistake that the President did with his Fair Employment Practices Committee. Five thousand dollars a year to aid in the solution of the problems of 500,000 Negro CIO Workers amounts to about one hundredth of a cent a Negro member. Brother Murray, you could buy your Negro support cheaply if you were wise.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Florida CIO Wins Rehiring Of Fired Negro

APR 19 1943

(Special to the Daily Worker)

MIAMI, April 18.—For the first time in Florida history, Negro and white union solidarity has forced the reinstatement with full back pay of a Negro worker fired from his job at the Miami Shipbuilding Corporation.

APR 19 1943

Fifteen hundred Southern workers, among them 100 women and 150 Negroes, stuck together to win the reinstatement of William W. Dunn, a laborer, and four white workers simultaneously.

The victory, achieved by the Industrial Union of Marine & Shipbuilding Workers of America, CIO, brings a total of $1,064 in back pay to the workers. But more important than the money is the Negro and white solidarity which cracked through years of Jim Crow prejudice to achieve the victory.

APR 19 1943

At the same time, the National Labor Relations Board has ordered the dissolution of the corporation's company union and declared null and void an election which would have required a runoff between CIO and the company union.

The CIO has petitioned the labor board for a new election at which a sole bargaining agent for the yard will be finally determined.

The Miami Shipbuilding Corporation is the first large unit to be organized into the CIO in the State. The election, when it takes place, will be the largest ever held in the State.

APR 19 1943

Assails Mob Violence

The resolution ordered immediary action against colored citizens, and people of other minorities." Another resolution urged the immediate roll-back of prices to September, 1942, levels, or a "genstore the real purchasing value of labor's wage."

It also reiterated the union's opposition to any form of racial and condemned those "instigated by prejudiced discrimination a

BUFFALO, N.Y.—A resolution condemning hate strikes and re-iate disciplinary their no-strike pledge union members w affirmed the CIO United tors of, or partic Automobile Workers session of their eighth convention here Sunday.

"Hate" strikes were defined as opposition to any "all evidences of mob hatred and work violence, against

No to Hate Strikes

Auto Workers Say

Baltimore, Maryland
Afro-American
APR 17 1943

Negroes And Whites Celebrate Together

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y
SEP 10 1943

SUMTER, S. C.—In an imposing Labor Day Parade and celebration the white and Negro workers of Sumter showed that democracy can work among the workers. The celebration was sponsored by the Gamecock City Local 273 of the United Furniture Worker of America, (CIO). This is a mixed local with white and Negro officers and members. The workers carrying banners identified themselves as employees of the following factories: Sumter Planning Mills, Sumter Veneer Company, Imperial Lumber Company, Galloway and Pease, Brooklyn Cooperage Company, Williams Furniture Company and the Williams Veneer Company Also represented in the parade were the International Association of Machinists (AF of L) and the United Federal Workers (CIO. The paraders were not grouped according to race but according to factories and Locals; some white women but no Negro woman participated The spacious grounds surrounding the courthouse was overcrowded with workers and spectators, a majority of whom were Negroes.

The principal for the occasion were: Senator Alfred Scarborough, Dr Carl B. Epps, A. J. Zurga, International Representative of the United Furniture Workers and O. E. McKaine, Associate Editor of The Lighthouse. International Organizer, Charles H. Coburn, Jr., presided. Local 125, UFW, with headquarters in Columbia, was represented by Robert Kershaw, Harry Riley, John Summers and Lawrence Eaddy.

This Labor Day marked the first time in the history of Sumter that a "mixed" celebration and the municipal authorities were a bit nervous. The court house square was practically surrounded by a score or more of Military Police, Highway Patrolmen and members of the city police force. They were not needed however for the workers were too intent listening to the various speakers and appaluding them to permit an inharmonious note to arrive. It was a great day for the workers.

CIO Convention: Race Equality In Action

Daily Worker, N. Y.
NOV 2 1943

By Doxey Wilkerson
(Daily Worker Staff Correspondent)

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 1.—When the President and officers of an international union open their annual convention with a call for their 5,500,000 members to bring about the "complete destruction of racial discrimination," "to eliminate from our national life racial discrimination" one is ready to grant their claim to being "the most democratic labor body in the world today."

NOV 2 1943

This is exactly what happened on the initial day of the sixth constitutional convention of the Congress of Industrial Organizations which convenes in Philadelphia today.

Coming when the foul temporizing and double-talk of the recent AFL convention on the issue of racial discrimination are still in mind, the proposals of CIO President Philip Murray's annual report on this question are like a fresh breath of clean democratic air. Recognizing the fundamental independence of the joint struggle for national survival and Negro freedom, the President's report declares:

"In any practice of racial discrimination whether in industry or in the armed services or in any other sector of our national life is but ammunition for our Axis enemies. The cardinal principle of the CIO as expressed in its constitution, is 'to bring about the effective organization of the working men and women of America regardless of race, creed, color or nationality and to unite them for common action into labor unions for their mutual aid and protection.' Strong and powerful CIO unions therefore furnish the greatest assurance and the prime bulwark for the complete destruction of racial discrimination."

NOV 2 1943

AGAINST POLL TAX

Highly significant in view of Comptroller General Lindsay Warren's current effort to emasculate the Committee on Fair Employment Practice through overruling the basic provision of Executive Order 9,346 is the proposal that FEPC "be reconstituted. . . . As a permanent statutory agency empowered to prevent discrimination of the kinds now being dealt with by the committee and financed by direct Congressional appropriation." Still more significant is the anti-discrimination policy of CIO itself. Of 1,297 cases before FEPC on Sept. 1, "only one . . . involves charges of discrimination by a CIO local, and this case is in process of satisfactory adjustment."

NOV 2 1943

Other concrete proposals of the officers' report to curb racial discrimination include "the fight to eliminate the poll tax" and "setting up committees to abolish racial discrimination in each state, county and city industrial union council."

One of the first resolutions presented to the convention following a tribute to Philip Murray and reaffirmation of the no-strike pledge, was the proposal "to expand the organization of the unorganized into strong industrial unions . . . with special attention to . . . the influx of millions of workers into these industries, such as women workers, Negro workers, now being employed in other than skilled jobs" and other categories of new workers in war industry. The resolution was adopted unanimously by the 600 delegates attending the convention.

As the sixth Annual Convention of the CIO gets under way an observer cannot escape feeling its tremendous historic importance for the millions of "little people" of the world. The most heartening fact is that the convention promises to measure up fully to its responsibilities.

Mo. Governor Sees CIO on Race Problem

AUG 26 1943

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

(Special to the Daily Worker)

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Aug. 25.—Pressing the campaign which it initiated here last month to improve inter-racial relations and insure that the recent tragedy shall not be repeated here, the St. Louis CIO Council has submitted its program to Governor Forrest Donnell and asked him to help carry it out.

AUG 26 1943

The executive board of the council went to Jefferson City, the state capital, Monday, Aug. 16, and spent two hours giving the governor a first-hand account of inter-racial relations and factors in St. Louis, and urging its program.

Specific proposals of the CIO Council were:

That the governor undertake, in the event of the slightest racial disturbance, to call for federal troops;

That the St. Louis police, who operate under a board named by the governor instead of by the city, be given an education in their duties, with emphasis on treating Negroes like other citizens, and treating all fairly;

That the governor name an inter-racial committee to carry on a campaign of improved race relations on a state-wide basis.

CITE POLICE RECORD

The CIO pointed out to Governor Donnell that in Detroit many policemen had joined the rioters, and that the record of the St. Louis police in handling the underprivileged, particularly the Negroes, was such that the Negroes had no confidence in them. The delegation stressed that the Federal troops on the contrary, had stopped the riots in Detroit promptly, and had proved their fairness.

Donnell declared he was much impressed with the facts and proposals presented by the CIO Council, and that he appreciated its initiative. He said he wanted to think about the proposals and would advise the council of his decision.

AUG 26 1943

Heading the delegation of 11 was Oscar Ehrhardt, executive secretary of the council. James Davis, secretary treasurer of the state CIO council, accompanied the group.

The council last month presented to the late Mayor William Dee Becker of St. Louis a comprehensive program for dealing with the race situation. Becker showed considerable sympathy with the whole program, and agreed to name the citizens' committee which it called for. A few days before he was to have announced the personnel of the committee, he was killed, with nine others, in a glider crash. The CIO is following up the matter with the new mayor, A. P. Kaufmann, who already has announced that he will follow out Becker's plans.

The CIO Council also is actively pressing the national campaign to influence Congressmen during the recess. The executive board and legislative committee met with Congressman Louis E. Miller on Thursday night, Aug. 12, and with Senator Bennett Champ Clark the following afternoon, and frankly criticized their record in the present session of Congress.

AUG 26 1943

Furniture Workers Plan to Organize Southern Industry

The United Furniture Worker
Cincinnati, Ohio
SEP 29 1943
NEW YORK—(SNS)—Plans were

The election, which the U. S. Bedding company factory on September 16 when employees voter 96-63 in favor of the UFWA and next day at the Memphis Furniture Company plant where the CIO union won a 9 to 1 majority. Most of the workers in both plants

Ada

are [illegible]

Denying claims of a rival AFL union and the U. S. Bedding Company that the workers were "transitory and unskilled" and would dominate white employees who were "excluded from a voice" in union affairs, the board stated:

"It would appear that the objection of both the company and the AFL to the proposed industrial unit is based solely upon the grounds that the CIO includes within its ranks at the present time only Negro employees, a circumstances which they assert would result in the colored employees were the CIO certified as the bargaining representative of all the company's employees, controlling the bargaining relation between the two, and by the fact that both were parties to the consent election agreeent which preceded the hearing herein. They do oppose the finding of an appropriate unit if there is any possibility that the colored workers through having a majority would control it."

VOTE AGAINST PERMANENT FEP SETUP

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

75 Negro Delegates At Parley — Debate Four Key Issues At Meet

NOV 6 - 1943

By GEORGE McCRAY
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

PHILADELPHIA — Negro membership in the Congress of Industrial Organization has zoomed to the half million mark, the sixth annual CIO convention was told at its opening session here this week.

Reporting on membership, CIO President Philip Murray said the CIO now has 5,250,000. United Auto Workers President R. J. Thomas informed the convention that the number of Negro members in UAW was now 150,000 bringing the CIO total to 500,000.

One of the first actions at the convention affecting Negroes was the unanimous vote of the resolutions committee composed of highest CIO officials against supporting a resolution for a permanent Fair

Complete coverage of CIO convention in next week's Defender. Watch for pictures and exclusive stories by Defender correspondent George McCray.

Employment Practices Committee

It was reported that Van A. Bittner, committee chairman and vice president of the United Steel Workers, expressed fear of growing governmental control over labor and industry. Included on the committee is Willard Townsend, president of the United Transport Service Employes.

The prospect of fights on at least four major issues loomed as the CIO opened its convention.

These battles, three of which directly affect Negroes, center around (1) Endorsement of President Roosevelt for a fourth term; (2) continuation of the CIO's National Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination; (3) adoption of a resolution calling for establishment of a permanent FEPC, and (4) renewal of demands upon the American Federation of Labor to discontinue its policy of discrimination as a prerequisite to collaboration between them.

The presence of Sidney Hillman member of the War Production Board and former president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers' Union, makes it appear inevitable that the fourth term question will be raised the moment the convention turns its attention to politics. Hillman, who is a close friend of the President, is expected to align with CIO President Philip Murray in a program to mobilize the vote of labor to support retention of the present administration and reelect pro-labor congressmen.

While observers anticipate opposition in some quarters, it is felt quite likely that the Hillman-Murray combine will win its point.

Opposition to the anti-discrimination committee is not expected to involve a question of whether or not it should be retained, but rather by whom it is to be headed and its general composition.

Established in Boston last year, the committee did not function as conscientiously as was hoped and, in fact, outside prodding became necessary before the group moved toward any sort of investigation Too, a battle over the directorship of the committee engaged some of the CIO's most prominent figures.

Bridges sought to place a man of his choice in the seat as did also Ferdinand Smith, secretary of the NMU. The latter pushed Dorothy Funn, administrative secretary of the Negro Labor Victory Committee.

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George L. P. Weaver of the United Transport Service Employes of America, was named director.

Murray Praises Committee

In his report prepared for the convention, President Murray commends highly the work of the anti-discrimination committee. He says:

"Close cooperation has been effected with the governmental department whose programs are of vital interest to all minority groups. As a result of the committee's efforts the Office of Price Administration amended its basic policy to include minority and racial groups in the membership of the war price and rationing boards.

"The committee's program for the reorganization of the racial relations division of the Federal Public Housing Authority was adopted and put into practice by the FPHA. In this same spirit, the committee has worked with all the governmental agencies whose programs directly or indirectly affect minority groups in America.

"Any practice of racial discrimination, whether in industry or in the armed services or in any other sector of our national life, is but ammunition for our Axis enemies.

"Strong and powerful CIO unions therefore furnish the greatest assurance and the prime bulwark for the complete destruction of racial discrimination. It has been and shall continue to be the obligation of the CIO to eliminate from our national life racial discrimination."

Townsend for Stable FEPC

Regarding the FEPC issue, Townsend set the stage four weeks ago when he sounded off against the FEPC in connection with its railroad hearings. In his statement to the press, he announced that the only instrument by which discrimination in industry is going to be fought successfully is through a body duly authorized by congress. He called for legislation carrying out this thought.

This proposal has been talked up among delegates to the convention for some time now, and the likelihood of its defeat is remote. The CIO, naturally desiring to retain its reputation of being in the forefront among labor insofar as the Negro is concerned, will want an issue that will keep itself there. This seems to be it. The organization knows that to get a bill of goods across like this requires that beating of the drums start early.

Further, Townsend is a member of the resolutions committee. He is going to guide his proposal through to the floor of the convention and, if necessary, fight for it. He is going to support the discrimination committee also.

Calls Action Necessary

Referring to the proposal to recommend the setting up of a permanent FEPC, Murray says in his report:

"The work of the FEPC has been financed thus far out of the President's emergency funds. It will be impossible for the committee to draw on these funds indefinitely, even during the war. The committee will probably be compelled to go before Congress next Spring for a renewal of its authority and for further appropriations.

"It seems important, therefore, that the committee be reconstituted next year as a permanent statutory agency empowered to prevent discriminations of the kinds now being dealt with by the FEPC, and financed by direct Congressional appropriation."

Negro Delegation Large

The convention this year has an unusually large number of Negroes present. The 75 Negroes expected to register before the session is over reflects the tremendous gains Negroes have made in the CIO since Philip Murray became its president.

The colored delegates are housed at the Bellvue-Stratford hotel with over a thousand other delegates, many of whom are from the South. CIO Secretary James Carey selected this city for the convention after hotels in St. Louis, Mo., and elsewhere in the South refused to guarantee equal treatment for Negro delegates.

Victory For Progressive Unionism

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

AUG 14 1943

In winning the right to bargain collectively through their own independent union instead of the anti-Negro Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, AFL, the United Transport Service Employees of America, CIO, has won a great victory for Negroes and the cause of progressive unionism.

The decision of the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals favoring the Redcaps' union and against the National Mediation Board's "untenable and arbitrary" ruling that another union barring Negroes should represent them, is gratifying and now marks a milestone in the upward progress of Negro labor.

Also, the decision is a tribute to the leadership of the UTSEA and the solidarity of its members.

In just five years President Willard S. Townsend and his able associates have brought a group of wageless and unorganized workers to the forefront of progressive unionism. They have done their job with dignified efficiency and without resort to demagogy and charlatanism.

This is an achievement of which we should all be proud.

AUG 14 1943

The decision the Redcaps have won is a Declaration of Independence for all the little "captive" jim-crow unions and assessments to lily-white labor organizations over which they have no control and with whom they cannot even meet, for the dubious privilege of being represented in bargaining with employers.

Now that the Redcaps have completely emancipated themselves, we trust the "captive" jim-crow unions will promptly revolt from their masters.

AUG 14 1943

CIO Sweeps Huge Camel Cigarette Plant In Vote

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.—The giant R. J. Reynolds Camel plant here, biggest cigarette factory in the world, key plants in this area is expected announced.

Victory of the CIO in these two details of which have not yet been voted CIO by a two to one to cause a wave of CIO organiza- Tally in the Reynolds election is vote in the Labor Board elections tion throughout the area. Through- as follows: Unit 1, prefabrication: out the entire period of CIO or- CIO 3598; No union 236; AFL 20. last week. ganization, which started some 18 Unit 2, manufacturing: No union The CIO also swept the Charles- months ago, there have been no 2856; CIO 2829; AFL 115. ton, S. C., cigar plant of the Amer- disturbances in spite of race tension Donald Henderson, UCAPAWA ican Tobacco plant by a vote of disturbances in spite of race tension president, said, "Workers of R. J. 1,067 for CIO (the United Cannery, in many parts of the country. Tobacco company in the Agricultural, Packing and Allied Because of the two unit system cast 6427 votes for the Workers of America), 293 for AFL of voting, the Reynolds election does two units cast 3092 for neither and (Cigar Makers International Union) not give CIO a majority in the CIO against 30 AFL. These figures show that and 114 for no union. Negro work- second unit, but CIO leaders indi- 135 for AFL. The two units combined the workers played an important part in cate that they have no doubt of in the two units to one for a CIO both campaigns. the outcome in the run-off election, ers voted two to one for a CIO union.

"The CIO won an overwhelming victory with 92 per cent of the votes cast in Unit 1. A majority of the votes cast in Unit 2 were for unions. Under these circumstances it is clear that a new election will have to be held to determine whether the CIO or no union has a majority in Unit 2. Since the workers in the plant as a whole voted two to one for CIO, we have no doubt as to the outcome of the election."

Regional Director E. L. Sandefur similarly pointed out that the election returns indicate "beyond doubt an ultimate victory for the CIO in a run-off election which is sure to be held."

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CIO

Group Outfits Room For WACs

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.



REPRESENTATIVES of the CIO unions in New York present a plaque to the commanding officer at Fort Hamilton at the dedication ceremonies of a recreation room furnished by women members of the CIO locals for WACs. Left to right: Mercedes Reid, Book and Magazine Guild; Antoinette Rizzolo, of the United Electrical Workers; Lt. Mildred J. Pierce, WAC commanding officer, and Martha Sporn of the United Office and Professional Guild. A radio-phonograph combination, complete wtih a large library of records, plus desks, chairs, tables and subscriptions to leading newspapers and periodicals, were given by the women.

CIO SWEEPS DINING

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

CAR WORKERS' ELECTION

CHICAGO, Sept. 9—A smashing victory by the United Transport Service Employees of America, CIO, over the AFL Hotel and Restaurant Workers' union was recorded last week when the dining car employees of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific railroad went to the polls in a National Mediation Board election to determine the collective bargaining agency for the 500 cooks, waiters, pantrymen and club car porters of this road.

When results of the election were released by John F. Murray, representative of the National Mediation Board, 198 votes went to the UTSEA-CIO and 167 to the Hotel and Restaurant Workers' union.

The drive among dining car employees was opened several months ago by the CIO union and, according to UTSEA officials, this victory will become the opening wedge for the complete organization of the nation's 20,000 dining car workers under the banner of the CIO. New organizational drives in the Chicago area has been instituted among the 2,500 dining car workers on the Milwaukee, Burlington, Northwestern and Santa Fe railroads. In addition to the Rock Island, other dining car groups covered by the UTSEA-CIO are the Southern railroad, Boston and Maine railroad, Denver and Southern railroad and the Bangor and Aroostock railroad.

Blast Race-Baiters

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa

At CIO Convention

battled democracy, caused by the the forces of fascist incitement.

"We denounce jim-crow, jew-baiting, lynching, mob violence against Negro and Mexican people exclusion of Chinese, denial of citizenship to Filipinos, the turning of Protestant against Catholic, Christian against Jew native against foreign born American.

"Victory requires an end to these abuses, because we will not be cheated of victory."

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

UTES Organizes Pullman Worker

(Special Correspondence)

CHICAGO — The United Transport Service Employees Union's drive to organize the nation's Pullman repair shop workers had apparently ended in success this week as officials of the union asked management for recognition on the grounds that a majority of the workers involved were already signed up in the UTSEA.

Led by their militant president, Willard Townsend, the union's demand for recognition was made to H. R. Lary, supervisor of labor relations for the Pullman Company.

Pending Action

If the demand is denied, Townsend and his associates promised, the CIO affiliate will then invoke the services of the National Mediation Board by asking for an official elecion at plants located here, in Buffalo, Wilmington, Atlanta, St. Louis and Richmond, Calif.

Wage earners included in the various bargaining units are electricians, plumbers, steamfitters, trimmers and painters.

Efforts to organize the various shops were started nearly a year ago when CIO Utility Workers Organizing Committee agreed to release transport workers in its jurisdiction to the UTSEA. Active in organization drive were Fullerton Fulton, E. D. Hodson, Hugh Thompson and Al Koletinsky.

Automobile Workers Denounce Jim Crow

Philadelphia Tribune

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 8 — The United Automobile Workers of America (CIO), canceled its annual meeting scheduled to meet here September 4, because local hotels and restaurants fostered racial discrimination, a factor which would hamper intermingling of the delegates.

While remonstrating those persons responsible for the condition, R. J. Thomas, UAW president, designated Buffalo as the new site for the convention

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

CIO Contracts Tobacco Worker Testifies Against Federal Sales Tax

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C. — Tobacco workers here have made this a red-letter month in the first signing of the first three CIO contracts, making for substantial improvement in working conditions and pay.

These contracts are the result of the Tobacco Workers' Organizing Committee (UCAPAWA) drive which involves a total of some 13,000 tobacco workers in the area.

The contracts, signed by the Export, Winston and Piedmont leaf companies, all ask for a 55c minimum with proportionate increases in other job classifications, which will be decided by the War Labor Board. An Executive Committee of the Union shop and check-off; the other two plants won maintenance of membership and dues check-off.

"It is our part," she said. "We are loyal American citizens and want to do every thing in our power to win the war and peace as soon as possible, but first the figures I've given you, you can readily see we can't possibly stand an increase in taxes such as has been proposed and continue to do the things that we are already doing to keep America the land of the free."

Philadelphia Tribune

N. C. Workers Sign First 3

WASHINGTON—Testifying before the House Ways and Means Committee last Friday on behalf of 12,000 tobacco workers in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, who are organized in the Tobacco Workers Organizing Committee of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America, CIO, Mrs. Theodosia Simpson, young Negro woman who worked for seven years as a stemming machine operator in the R. J. Reynolds plant, spoke in vigorous opposition to federal sales tax.

Mrs. Simpson gave the committee an account of how the $22 tobacco workers, making 40 cents an hour; must support whole families on this amount, she pointed out.

"It isn't that we don't want to do our part," she said. "We are loyal American citizens and want to do every thing in our power to win the war and peace as soon as possible, but first the figures I've given you, you can readily see we can't possibly stand an increase in taxes such as has been proposed and continue to do the things that we are already doing to keep America the land of the free."

Age
New York, N. Y.

Achievements Of CIO's Committee To Abolish Racial Discrimination Are Cited In Labor Day Statemen

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Achievements of the CIO's Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination were praised this week in a Labor Day statement issued jointly here by James B. Carey, chairman of the Committee and secretary-treasurer of the CIO, and Willard Townsend, secretary of the Committee and president of the United Transport Service Employees of America.

The committee, Carey and Townsend reported, "has brought home to CIO members, and often to management as well, the forcible fact that a war to establish the four freedoms requires these same four freedoms behind the firing line, in the shops and mills and factories where the munitions of war are turned out."

The statement says:

"On this Labor Day, it is well for us to recall that the role of the Congress of Industrial Organizations has been a progressive one in American life. The CIO is organizing the unorganized. It is bringing the benefits of union working conditions to millions of workers regardless of race, creed color or nationality.

"The Congress of Industrial Organizations is, in every sense of the word, founded upon the principles of democracy. Today, every nerve and sinew of our great organization is directed toward the elimination of the scourge of fascism—both in America and abroad—in all its ugly manifestations.

"In two fields that may not be considered strictly matters of hours and wages—but fields of vital concern to every democratic American—the Congress of Industrial Organizations is able to report progress of a concrete, tangible nature in the past year.

"While the CIO from its inception has opposed any discrimination on basis of prejudice against minorities in American life, this line of thinking was expressed more realistically when the national Executive Board, composed of elected representatives of the 5,000,000 CIO members (over 500,000 of them Negroes) voted in August, 1942, to set up a National Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination, on a motion by Willard S. Townsend, member of the board representing the United Transport Service Employees of America. This Committee has already become an active arm of CIO policy, with James B. Carey, national secretary-treasurer as its chairman, Willard S. Townsend, secretary, Boyd L. Wilson, Ferdinand Smith, James J. Leary, and George [illegible]. Weaver as its director.

Program Of Education

"Within a few months, this committee has fostered a program of education, in cooperation with the International Unions of the CIO, so that the membership understands better why industrial unionism and racial discrimination cannot exist side by side. It has brought home to CIO members, and often to management as well, the forcible fact that a war to establish the four freedoms requires these same four freedoms behind the firing line, in the shops and mills and factories where the munitions of war are turned out.

"Along with this basic educational work have gone a myriad of other activities on the part of the Committee, acting through its director, George Weaver. It has represented Negro workers before government agencies. For example, early in April of this year, numerous complaints reached the CIO from individual trade unionists charging discrimination in the operation of ration boards and rationing. The National Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination petitioned OPA for greater and more adequate Negro representation on the War Price and Ration Boards. After repeated pressure, in May 1943, an administrative order was issued by the Director of OPA to all its regional officers instructing them to see that all boards contain representatives of all minority groups in the community. Now, the CIO takes on the further job of "policing" this order—as mittee to Abolish Racial Discrimination is engaged in setting up local anti-discrimination committees in each city and state Industrial Union Council. It is here, in every industrial city and town in our nation, that the difficult problems of racial discrimination, of prejudice, of anti-minority practices, will have to be tackled and solved."

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

Union's Efforts Praised During Labor Day Week

Willard Townsend, UTSEA Head, and James B. Carey, Of CIO, Make Statements

WASHINGTON. — Achievements of the CIO's Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination were praised this week in a Labor Day statement issued jointly here by James B. Carey, chairman of the committee and secretary-treasurer of the CIO and Willard Townsend, secretary of the committee and president of the United Transport Service Employes of America.

The committee, Cary and Townsend reported, "has brought home to CIO members, and often to management as well, the forcible fact that a war to establish the four freedoms requires these same four freedoms behind the firing line, in the shops and mills and factories where the munitions of war are turned out."

The statement continues in part:

Founded on Democracy

"On this Labor Day, it is well for us to recall that the role of the Congress of Industrial Organizations has been a progressive one in American life. The CIO is organizing the unorganized. It is bringing the benefits of union working conditions to millions of workers regardless of race, creed, color or nationality. "The Congress of Industrial Organizations is, in every sense of the word, founded upon the principles of democracy.

"At present, the national Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination is engaged in setting up local anti-discrimination committees in each city and State Industrial Union Council. It is here, in every industrial city and town in our nation, that the difficult problems of racial discrimination, of prejudice, of anti-minority practices, will have to be tackled and solved.

War Relief

"In another field—that of community organization and war relief—the National CIO War Relief Committee has made great strides in integrating unionists, and the union's outlook on social and economic problems, deeper into American life.

"Last year CIO members dug deep into their pockets to give more than $20,000,000 for foreign war relief, and for domestic social agencies. About half of this enormous sum given by Americans to Red Cross and community war chests and funds stays in local communities. Now that the organized labor movement has begun to claim credit for the money given by members of unions, the CIO brings its powerful forces to the fight against racial discrimination in this new field—the domestic social agencies.

Carry-Over Policy

"How does the CIO implement its declared policy of "no discrimination" among the social agencies with whom it deals, and those who are beneficiaries of organized labor's contributions? One of the most effective methods of implementing this policy is through the CIO representatives on the directing boards of these agencies. By the end of 1943, 3000 CIO representatives—both Negro and white—will be serving on the directing boards and social agencies and relief organizations.

These agencies run the gamut from the Boy Scouts of America, to YMCA, to visiting nurses. These CIO people are attending luncheon meetings, round table discussions, talking with men and women who have been consistently guilty of Negro discrimination.

The full weight of the CIO's progressive policies are felt at these meetings. Thus, these labor representatives—Negro and white—allow no jim-crow bookkeeping or racial differentials by social agencies when relief money is to be spent. They insist—with the organized power of the CIO backing them—that Negro social agencies receive adequate appropriations and that other social agencies gave increased services to Negro recipients."



MISS THEODOSIA SIMPSON

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Carolina Woman Joins CIO Staff

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.—Miss Theodosia Simpson, Reynolds Tobacco Company worker has joined the staff of the Tobacco Workers Organizing Committee CIO in Winston-Salem as field representative.

The TWOC was set up by the United Cannery, Agricultural Packing and Allied Workers of America, CIO to organize the 11,000 Reynolds workers, makers of Camels, in the largest cigarette plant in the world.

Miss Simpson proved her abilities as a union leader in the plant where she operated a stemming machine. In the NLRB election on August 3 and 4, CIO won a two to one vote, but due to the unit system of voting, a majority was not gained in one unit. The final outcome has not yet been determined.

Dining Car Men Choose UTSEA In Huge Vote

Bee Chicago, Ill.

A smashing victory by the United Transport Service Employees, CIO, over the AFL Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union was recorded this week when the dining car employees of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad went to the polls in a National Mediation Board election to determine the collective bargaining agency for the 500 cooks, waiters, pantrymen and car porters of this road.

The results of the election were released by John F. Murray, representative of the National Mediation Board. 198 votes went to the UTSEA-CIO and 167 to the Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union.

The drive among dining car employees was opened several months ago by the CIO union and according to UTSEA officials this victory will become the opening wedge for the complete organization of the nation's 20,000 dining car workers under the banner of the CIO. New organizational drives in the Chicago area have been instituted by the UTSEA, CIO on the Milwaukee, Burlington, North Western and Sante Fe Railroads.

ALA. CIO BACKS ANTI-LYNCH BILL

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. Declaring that "anti-Negro riots and lynchings not only throw a monkey wrench into war production, but impair the confidence in America's war aims of the peoples of South America, the Far East and Africa, the Alabama state convention of the CIO here last week adopted a resolution urging "wholehearted support of the Gavagan anti-lynching bill" and pledged the funds and energy of the organization to carry on an educational campaign for the passage of the measure as an essential program for winning the war."

35i-1943

Florida

Arrest Of Bell Hop Results In Strike

Defender
Chicago Ill.

PENSACOLA, Fla. — Colored bellhops and elevator operators at the famous San Carlos hotel here went on strike Friday, protesting the arrest of a bellhop who had been charged with the theft of jewelry from two hotel guests. The Negro employes contended the bellhop was innocent.

JUL 24 1943

35i-1943
Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

On The Labor Front

Workers Gained During 1942

JAN 3 1943

FOR ANP
By GEORGE F. McCRAY

TREMENDOUS GAINS were made by Negro labor in 1942, careful check-up of important labor developments reveals. The work of various groups long opposed to discrimination against Negroes was aided by our urgent need to mobolize total manpower to achieve maximum production This situation caused Negro workers to receive unusual recognition from the government, industry and labor organizations.

TOWNSEND WENT ON CIO BOARD

Perhaps the most spectacular event of the year was the placing of Willard Townsend on the CIO's executive board. Townsend became the first Negro to ever hold such a position and his presence on the board enables Negroes to participate directly in the formulation of policies relating to labor and the conduct of the war.

More than any other individual Townsend is responsible for the CIO's no-discrimination policy with respect to unity negotiations wih the AFL.

FEPC SAVED

JAN 3 1943

Of far greater significance however, was the defeat of the attempt southern Democrats and reactionary employers to scuttle the Presiden's Committee on Fair Employment Practices. The Transfer of the committee to Paul V. McNutt was definitely to move to put the committee in cold storage.

This move failed only because win-the war groups in the country sprang to the defense of the committee demanding that no effort be made to curb its effectiveness. Most of the credit for saving of the committee goes to the CIO and the NAACP. FEPC now has a larger staff and more adequate funds with which to work. It is still under the shadow of McNutt, however.

To date the greatest single achievement of FEPC is its Great Lakes doctrine; namely that closed shop contracts will not be allowed to prevent the employment of defense workers because of the race, nationality, religion of such workers.

UNIONS FIGHT DISCRIMINATION

JAN 3 1943

Though the year marked by a number of so-called 'hate-strikes' against the employment of Negro workers these demonstrations by white workers were exceeded by the large number of indictments which FEPC returned against defense employers for similar acts of discrimination .In the fact of those incidents, the fight against discrimination made progress on a broad front.

..The CIO, on suggestion of Bill Townsend, established a special anti-discrimination committee; Phillip Murray appointed Boyd Wilson as his special assistant to complete the integration of Negro steel. workers. into the.. United Steel Workers of America.

The United Automobile Workers of America and the National Maritime union made extraordinary efforts to cement interracial cooperation and goodwill. These efforts were matched by other CIO unions particularly in the south. The crowning results of this struggle was the placing of mixed crews in the American Merchant marine.

JIM CROW CRUMBLES

Despite the fact that A. P. Randolph failed to get constructive support for an anti-discrimination program at the Toronto convention of the AFL; despite the fact that the AFL machinists and boilermakers unions stubbornly resisted the employment of Negroes as skilled workers in ship yards, the barriers of discrimination in the AFL began to crumble.

Bill Green and Frank Fenton, the latter is director of organization for the AFL, appointed several special Negro representatives to assist them in racial matters. More significantly the 14 non-operating brotherhood in the railroad industry dropped the bars and seated Solon C Bell and Richard Smith as delegates to the collective bargaining conference of the non-operating unions. Thus the Joint Council of Dining Car Employes became the 15th member of the group.

William Harrison's Brotherhood of Railway Clerks hired a Negro organizer for the first time. At present various factions in the union seem to be clearing the deck to make the discrimination issue the one big issue at the 1943 convention of the railway clerks.

Already a number of local clerks, unions are admitting Negroes into full membership despite provisions in the constitution of the international union requiring the segregation of Negroes. Other AFL unions, particularly in the building trade, were forced to open their doors to Negroes.

JAN 3 1943

EMPLOYMENT GAINS

The year was marked by a steady stream of Negro men and women entering the employ of the government and private employers. No survey has been made, but reports indicate that these workers are not only finding employment in the traditional occupations open to Negroes, but that hundreds of skilled jobs were also being made available. This is particularly true in the aircraft and shipbuilding industries.

JAN 3 1943

In summary the position and status of Negro labor in American industry has been markedly improved by the war. What 1943 will bring will depend upon the course of the war and the willingness and the ability of Negroes to continue the fight to crush discrimination in unions and in industry.

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

They Betrayed Their Country

MAR 10 1943

The long delayed decision of the war labor board on the west coast aircraft wage demands grants partial increases but not the large boost in rates requested Spokesmen for the employees in the industry say the workers are sorely disappointed and the union has called a massmeeting for Sunday to discuss the situation and decide what to do about it.

MAR 10 1943

The problems involved in this case appear to be unusually complex for the WLB took months to resolve them and then divided 7 to 5 on the solution. We consequently can't presume to judge the merits of the issue, but it is plain that the Boeing airfraft workers did not help their case when they stopped work en masse a few days since and demonstrated in downtown Seattle in an effort to force a quick decision from the boa

MAR 10 1943

By that action they forfeited all right to sympathy and brought angry condemnation down upon themselves from all parts of the nation and from none more severely than former fellow workerse now serving in the armed forces. One of these now serving with th air force in Texas, whose letter of protest against the walkout is quoted by the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, said:

MAR 10 1943

It may be advanced that at this distance I do not know the merits of this controversy. My answer is that there are no merits to a work stoppage in plane plants in war time.

That is the answer that every true an honest citizen gives. It is the right answer, the only answer, for work stoppage in the making of any vital war material is treason as criminal as desertion in the face of the enemy.

Those who struck at Boeing's or who strike in any war work hurt their own cause, wrong ali labor and betray their brothers, sons and fellow citizens in the armed services and the nation. Such action can not be condoned on any theory and as the casualty lists pile up it will not be tolerated.

More Negroes in Trade Unions

(Special to the Daily Worker)

CHICAGO, Aug. 22.—More than 400,000 Negro workers are now enrolled as paid-up members of trade unions in the United States, according to a report issued by the Douglass Washington Institute. The report says that 210,000 Negroes are in the CIO and 130,000 in the AFL, the remainder being in miscellaneous unions, including the mine workers.

APR 18 1943

The Daily Worker
New York, N.

Sally Wade, machine operator: I don't care what anybody says. The unions are fine. They've done more for the working folks like myself than anything else. The unions helped me get a job. And let me tell you, it was an awful hard thing for my folks to get jobs.

I belong to a union and let me tell you, I talk union every chance I get. I belong to Local 65 and it's a mighty good union. It fights discrimination and



Curbstone Views

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

APR 18 1943

By ERIC WEBBER

What Has Been Your Reaction to "Captain" Rickenbacker's Blasts at Labor?



Pauline G. Smolin, factory worker: Rickenbacker never worked in his life. He doesn't know a thing about labor. He's only in the service of some big manufacturers. When you ask me if I believe what he says about labor unions being no good, I say no. I don't believe a word he says. I've been working hard for a living all my life.

I know what it is to work. And as far as I'm concerned, unions are necessary. The working people need them. Rickenbacker is only using his social heroism to get the sympatiy of the people. I don't know where he gets the nerve to talk the way he does when thousands of our boys are getting killed because they hate fascism. And when they come back, the ones who don't get killed, they don't may be a hero, but there a want fascism in this country. And that's what they'll have if it's up to Rickenbacker and his friends.

My experience tells me labor unions.

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DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82



Bill Jones, shipping clerk: Rickenbacker doesn't care about the working man's interests. He may be a good flyer, but he should keep his nose out of things that he doesn't know about. I certainly don't think that he tells the truth when he kicks union people.

And what's more, most of my friends are on to him too. The working people sure have a lot of cleaning up to do in Washington. Rickenbacker belongs to the gang that I call Washington gangsters.

Any man who is against the unions can't be very interested in winning the war. After all, it's us folks who are out there kicking the pants off Hitler.

APR 18 1943



William Zimmerman, exterminator: I'm a union man and I'm proud of it. As far as I'm concerned, Rickenbacker does not talk for me when he attacks the unions.

If he was really interested in knowing about organized labor and would do a little investigating, he'd find that the union people are the ones who are fighting this war both in the factory and on the war front.

IIt's his kind that stall closer cooperation between capital and labor. Of course, I do admit that he's a hero, but I don't think that it's fair for a man to use the good things he has done to do bad things. It doesn't make sense.

I have five nephews in the service. And I'm sure they would agree with me too

APR 18 1943



E. F. Wohlhorn, makes uniforms: I'm not a Communist or a Socialist but I think it's a shame that the government lets Rickenbacker get away with the things that he does.

Labor is shouldering the major part of the war and in most cases they aren't even getting a living wage. Then a guy like Rickenbacker comes along and rubs salt on a sore with this baloney.

Militarily, he may be an okay fellow, but as far as unions are concerned, he just doesn't know what he's talking about.

I have kids in the service, and it gets my dander up when I hear all this stuff that men like Rickenbacker are permitted to throw around.

White Unionists Trying To Scare Colored Hughes Tool Workers into Joining the CIO

Negro Labor News Houston, Texas

JAN 2 - 1943

I. M. W. U. Membership Increasing; to Fight Union Discrimination in Contract

By C. W. RICE

CIO bosses who got only a few Negro votes in the Hughes Tool election December 10, have built the greatest propaganda set-up ever witnessed in Houston to frighten Negroes into joining the CIO. They are telling the workers that they will be thrown off their jobs; that the CIO is going to get a closed shop contract and the colored workers will have to join the union.

Negro Labor News Houston, Texas

It seems that the CIO is not making much headway in getting colored memberships, so it has resorted to this scheme of frightening the colored public by having various speakers appear before colored gatherings to spread union propaganda. The workers say they will not be frightened and that they have no intention of destroying their union (the IMWU) or turning their assets over to the CIO on the vague promises of white organizers and their colored "stooges."

What the Colored Independent Union Can Do

If the colored workers keep their own union, here's what they can do:

I. They can represent their own members in matters of grievances, that is, each individual member just as the CIO did when the Independent Union had the bargaining rights.

The Bill of Rights provides that every citizen in America is entitled to representation in legal grievances. No union should attempt to violate this sacred right.

- 1943

II. Members of the Independent Union can get the benefits of whatever contract on wage and work benefits is in effect with the company without being forced to join that union.

Houston, Texas

The CIO contract must affect all workers at Hughes Tool in a given classification regardless of whether they are members of the AFL, CIO, Independent, or whether they are non-unionists.

JAN 2 - 1943

III. In case of discrimination or violation of the union contract in effect, or the Fair Practice Labor Laws, the Independent Union can invoke the service of the National Labor Relations Board and, if remedy is not found there, they can take their case to courts, starting at the lower courts and on through the United States Supreme Court.

IV. The Independent Union can also invoke the service of the President's Fair Labor Practice Committee against the bargaining union and the company if its members feel they are being discriminated against on account of race.

V. Members of the IMWU can assess their own dues and initiation fees without being obligated in any way to the CIO. To illustrate: Membership dues in the colored Independent Union is now 50 cents. The CIO's is said to be $2.00 and it may go as high as $3.00. The Independents can still keep their dues as it is and maintain their working privileges and rights as other workers at the plant.

VI. The Colored Independent Union has sole jurisdiction over the spending and handling of their monies and other affairs now while CIO members (colored) must pay and spend according to the rules and regulations laid down by white officials of the union here at Houston and at the general headquarters in Washington.

VII. The Independent Union can still elect and send its own delegates and representatives to any national body anywhere while in the CIO, delegates are voted on by whites and colored. Negroes seldom have a chance of being elected as delegates.

VIII. The Colored IMWU can maintain its own headquarters with its own staff of office workers.

IX. The IMWU can still protect $40,000 assets of the colored workers in cash, bonds and savings, through a Federal Credit Union.

X. The 1,000 or more colored members of the Independent Metal Workers Union can still be an example in labor circles that white silver-tongued orators can not always go among Negroes and cause them to sell out their birthright on a lot of hi-faluting promises, handshakes and a pat on the back.

JAN 2 - 1943

Colored workers at Hughes Tool have already demonstrated to Houston and the South that Negroes can organize and fight for what they think is right. They have disapproved the statement often made that Negroes will sell out en masse and that the last white man who talks to them will get their support. The colored citizens of Houston should feel proud to know that these 1,000 or more workers here have stood together despite the many lies and tricks against them by members of their own race. LET'S GIVE THEM ENCOURAGEMENT THAT OTHERS MAY DO LIKEWISE.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Pastor Attacks Texas Editor With Switchblade

JAN 30 1943

Dispute Starts With Differences Over Labor Issue

JAN 30 1943

HOUSTON, —(ANP)—An attack allegedly with a switchblade kinfe on C. W. Rice, newspaper editor and labor leader, last Saturday by the Rev. L. Vester Bolton, Baptist minister of this city, this week led to the filing of a warrant for the arrest of the minister on attempted assault charges.

The office of the editor of the Negro Labor News was thrown into a turmoil when the pastor forced his way into the private office of Rice, then allegedly drew a knife and threatened the editor's life. One of the newspaper employes attempted to persuade the minister to leave but he refused.

JAN 30 1943

According to Mr. Rice, Rev. Bolton threatened him after Rice had refused to publish an apology for an article written in an earlier issue of the paper.

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In the melee which followed, Bolton was badly beaten and Rice suffered cuts on the face and eye when his glasses were broken.

John H. Thompson, photographer-reporter, finally managed to separate the two men prior to the arrival of police officers who had been called by the secretary. Both men were bloody and Bolton's face was swollen. Rice refused to file charges when police arrived but filed the assault charge later.

It is believed the two men differed in their views on labor, Rice supporting the Independent union in a recent election and Bolton supporting the CIO.

Mr. Rice is a member of Mt. Corinth church which is pastored by Rev. Bolton. He formerly pastored in Kansas City.

JAN 30 1943

Mayor Urged To Name Negro To His Staff, And On Board Of Education And Police Dept.

Age
New York, N. Y.

The Negro Labor Assembly, composed of delegates from unions both AFL and CIO affiliated with the Negro Labor Committee, meeting in an emergency session Friday evening in the Harlem Labor Center, 312 West 125th street, unanimously adopted and sent to Mayor LaGuardia resolutions on the Harlem riot, a partial text of which follows:

1. That the Mayor call upon the President of the United States to issue an executive order abolishing all forms of racial discrimination, segregation and jimcrowism in the various governmental departments, and in the armed forces of the United States.

2. That the Mayor appoint a commission on race relations consisting of all races, creeds and colors and including representatives of organized labor both AFL and CIO.

3. That the Mayor appoint two Negro citizens, one as a member of the Board of Education and the other as a member of the executive administrative staff of the Board of Education. Also that the Mayor appoint a Negro to serve as one of his ranking secretaries, and that a Negro be appointed as a deputy police commissioner.

4. That steps be taken at once to hold down rents and that all rules and regulations affecting repairs, upkeep and sanitary conditions of homes be rigorously enforced.

5. That the Mayor instruct the Department of Weights and Measures to pay more attention to the conditions in Harlem over which that department has jurisdiction.

6. That the City of New York secure available buildings to be used for indoor concerts, skating rinks and other recreational and cultural activities; and that such buildings be placed under the supervision of the appropriate department of the city administration.

A THING OR TWO

PM
New York, N. Y.

Brotherhoods

WASHINGTON

It may be that in Nazi Germany, despite wartime manpower shortages, "non-Aryans" still are forbidden employment. I know of one other place where that kind of self-defeating racial discrimination exists: on the railroads of the U. S. A.

On the railroads of the North, no Negroes are given employment as firemen or engineers. On the railroads of the South, where Negroes have been employed as firemen for years, there is a powerful movement to deprive them of their jobs.

Whence does this movement derive? Not from Ku Kluxers, nor from reactionary employers, nor from demagogue-inflamed hillbillies. It originates with the Brotherhoods —so called—of railroad workers.

In Germany, Hitler had to crush the labor movement to institute racial discrimination. In the U. S. A., at least one section of the labor movement is out in front, demanding discrimination. I hope the Brotherhoods are proud of themselves.

A Dirty Job

Firing an engine is a dirty job. In the South, until the last war, that dirty, back-breaking job was left to Negroes. In the middle 20s, two developments changed this picture. One was the automatic stoker: a fireman handled a push button instead of a shovel. The other was the Diesel engine. These made the fireman's job pleasanter.

A third factor made the Brotherhoods anxious to force Negroes out of their jobs as firemen on Southern roads. White firemen were promotable to engineers, Negro firemen weren't. To become an engineer, a white firemen had to have three years of service with at least 300 days a year. Only the better runs provide 300 days a year, and these go first to the men with seniority. Negro firemen had seniority, but since race discrimination barred them from becoming engineers, they became a bottleneck, blocking the way upward for white firemen.

There were two ways to break this bottleneck. One was to let Negro firemen rise to engineers; the other, to get rid of Negro firemen. The Brotherhoods chose the latter course.

I hope this doesn't make pleasant reading.

The Case

This is how the case came before the President's FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee): In 1940, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers tried to get Southeastern railroads to take steps which would have eliminated all Negro firemen. The railroads compromised on an agreement which would guarantee at least 50 per cent of all firemen's jobs to whites, except on those Southern railroads which had earlier agreed to limit Negro firemen to less than that.

This agreement has been causing trouble because under it railroads suffer from a shortage of skilled firemen—while skilled and experienced Negro firemen are unemployed.

This, in the midst of a great war to establish principles of human equality and brotherhood everywhere, the Brotherhoods were insisting on race discrimination at home.

Hearing

And when the President's FEPC summoned the Brotherhoods to hearings last September, the Brotherhoods did not have enough respect for the President, the best friend labor has ever had in the White House, to obey the summons of his Committee. The Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers condescended only to send their counsel as "an unofficial observer."

These are the railroad workers who once produced a Eugene V. Debs. These are the smug and well-established workers for whom he, good and kind man, once went to jail. I hope the labor movement is ashamed of them.—I. F. STONE.

Labor Forum

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

TO STRIKE OR NOT TO STRIKE—that is NOT the question. The real question is will "to strike" help win the war. The answer is NO, with no ifs or buts or ands. In fact, "to strike" will cut production, cut fighting power, delay final victory, aid Hitler, and in closing the vicious circle threaten the very existence of the trade union movement. Yet the black thunder of widespread strikes which will cripple the war effort hangs over the country. A crisis is at hand.



Mr. Weston

Railroads and Mines

What is the meaning of the strikes and threat of more strikes in the mining industry? Of the strike vote in the railroad industry? Right now, we must have **more not less coal**, to run the war industries, to maintain essential home services, to run the railroads, to keep the miners and their fellow workers in other industries warm. Railroads must deliver more not less goods and war equipment to the armed forces, to the people.

Is it that the miners and railroad workers are blind, selfish or unpatriotic? Is it that they don't give a d—n and are ready to "cut off their nose to spite their face." Clearly, these thousands of workers, who have sons, brothers, husbands, friends on every battlefront, are patriotic and want to win the war.

Negro Workers

Some 50,000 Negro miners and another 150,000 Negro railroad workers are involved. They and the Negro people, along with all other loyal Americans, must take a wise and clear cut position on this great issue.

The Issue

The issue is that the miners and railroad workers are seeking a fair wage increase. They should get it. They should have had it long ago. Employers and government officials responsible for the economic war program have denied these just increases.

How To Solve It

But "to strike" is not the sensible or patriotic way to get the increase. The steelworkers under the leadership of Phil Murray and their United Steel Workers union got increases **without strike.** New York City subway workers following Mike Quill and their Transport Workers union got substantial increases **without strike.**

How? Both organized their membership and public opinion behind their just demands and behind the seven-point economic program of the national administration. It worked. It can be done again.

Who Is Responsible

Responsibility for this strike crisis rests on many. The anti-Roosevelt Democrats (especially the Southern poll-taxers) and Republicans in Congress teamed up to wreck the 7-point economic stabilization program of the Administration. They blocked effective price control, cut off subsidies to reduce prices, jammed through the phony Ruml tax plan (which takes 20c out of every dollar the workers get over $12 per week), tossed out all restrictions on super-profits, and now flirt with the inflationary sales tax.

James Byrnes and Fred Vinson, appointed by the President to keep the home fires burning and the war going, have given into the fake propaganda about high wages and have failed to use wisely the wide powers granted them under the Stabilization Act, to see that the miners and railroaders get fair wages.

The War Labor Board has played ostrich and refused to deal practically with the hard fact that the miners need more money now. The Board's award of an increase of $2 a day is foolish and creates only confusion.

Employers working smoothly with John L. Lewis have dodged working out wage adjustments while they grab the greatest profits in the history of the country.

Finally, organized labor as a whole has not rallied effectively to the broad political action program as outlined by Phil Murray of the CIO and by Bill Green of the AFL. This program would whip reactionary Congressmen into the Victory Line of supporting the roll-back of prices, living wages, a fair tax program and maximum production.

The Way Out

There is still time to prevent the closing of the mines and stalling of the trains. Labor and the people must put the heat on those blocking the effective working of the economic stabilization program. False prophets in the labor movement like Lewis must be put on ice. The "no strike" pledge of labor must be held to. Byrnes, Vinson and the War Labor Board must change their stand. Production must be kept going with justice and security to the miners and railroaders. VICTORY MUST NOT BE DELAYED BY STRIKES.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Civil Liberties and the Unions

New York, N.Y. New

THE long-awaited report of the American Civil Liberties Union on *Democracy in Trade Unions* symbolizes public recognition of the change which has taken place in the status of organized labor. So long as the main function of the unions was guerrilla warfare against employers, their rules were nobody's business but their own. Their organizational set-ups often tended to develop into a sort of militaristic ruthlessness that had nothing to do with democracy. The only test was the winning of battles with the enemy. The members were the only public that mattered.

In issuing directives to trade unions, the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices recognizes the fact that we have entered upon a new era. The agreements between unions and employers have such an important bearing on public policy that they have become the business of the entire country. Under these circumstances it is of the utmost importance that citizens generally, organs of public opinion and government officials should be well informed about trade union policies. In this connection, the analysis presented in the C. L. U. report will serve an important purpose.

The survey opens with the statement that "more than 3,000,000 jobs in the United States—over a third of those subject to unionization—are covered by collective bargaining agreements." "For about 6,000,000 of these jobs," the authors explain, "union membership is a condition of employment." Since the unions have power to control men's bread, it is important that conditions of membership be determined upon a just and democratic basis. This leads directly up to the burning problem of discrimination against Negroes.

"Fifteen unions," we are told, "exclude Negroes by explicit constitutional provision or by ritual. These include some of the most powerful unions in the country, such as the Machinists, the Railroad Telegraphers, the Railway Mail Association and the Switchmen, the Commercial Telegraphers—all A. F. of L. affiliates; and the four independent railroad brotherhoods. Five A. F. of L. affiliates, mostly in the building trades, have no rules barring Negroes from membership, but locals exclude them by tacit consent. These are the Plumbers and Steamfitters, the Electrical Workers, the Asbestos Workers, the Flint Glass Workers and the Granite Workers. Seven A. F. of L. and two independent unions confine Negroes to Jim Crow auxiliaries where they pay dues but are denied a voice in union affairs and opportunities for advancement in the trade. These include the Boilermakers and Shipbuilders, the Maintenance of Way Employes, the Railway Carmen, the Railway Clerks, the Blacksmiths, the Sheetmetal Workers, the Federation of Rural Letter Carriers, the American Federation of Railroad Workers and the Rural Letter Carriers' Association."

Five states have laws which provide in principle that unions may not exclude applicants from membership on the ground of race or religion. The C. L.U. approves of these measures and advocates the adoption of similar ones in the other states. In the meantime it is a healthy thing to have this dark picture spread before the public. If the report does injustice to any of the organizations mentioned, The New Leader will be glad to publish corrections from their officials.

The subject of racketeering in the unions is only obliquely dealt with. Domination of a trade union organization by a gang of hand-picked men is obviously to the disadvantage of the members—or so the writers of this report assume. In accordance with this line of thinking, it is their opinion that the cure for racketeering is democratic procedure.

It is this matter of democratic controls within the union that forms the chief center of interest in this report. Here the investigators may, perhaps, be accused of pulling their punches. There is no such array of facts as those given in connection with the discrimination against Negroes. Possibly the authors recoiled from the idea of putting propaganda material into the hands of Labor's enemies. That they are well informed about the numerous forms of coercion within the unions is evident on many pages.

There is here careful discussion of the election and authority of officers, the freedom of discussion within the locals, the degrees to which the conventions represent the will of the membership, the ways in which minorities are guaranteed (or denied) the right of expression, the possibilities of coercion through job control and many other aspects of union democracy. The ways in which it is possible for dictatorial officials to retain power through control of the administrative machinery are clearly outlined. There is emphasis on the fact that such means of control are used in such ways in only a minority of organizations. The authors show, moreover, that both of the great federations have general policies opposed to such procedures. But they clearly imply—what is the truth—that a number of large organizations are arbitrarily controlled from the top down and that this fact is one of the most unpleasant problems faced by trade unionists at the present time.

The trade union forces never asked the Civil Liberties Union to offer a solution for this problem. It is Labor's own headache and must be taken care of by labor officials and the trade union membership. The Union is made up of public spirited citizens interested in the organizational problems of the workers because they impinge vitally upon the public welfare. They are speaking for the part of the public that is most interested in the well-being of Labor. In these days, when both management and Labor are so largely dependent upon government, public opinion is more than ever important. So it will be well for labor men to scan carefully what these men have to say.

New Leader

What is suggested is a Bill of Rights, not for the unions, but for the members within the unions. The worker should have rights: 1—To membership in the suitable organization without any discrimination except on the basis of "incompetence in his trade or calling, bad moral character or a record of anti-union activity." 2—To democratic participation in the conduct of the union to which he belongs. 3—To protection within his union against arbitrary proceedings of a disciplinary character. 4—To fair and equal treatment with respect to job placement.

The authors of this report are opposed to legal interference with trade union procedures. They do suggest a public agency "for hearing . . . on suspensions or expulsions from the unions." But it is implicit in their entire approach that their hope is centered chiefly in activity set in motion from within. No one can hand liberty to anyone else. The members of racketeer-cursed organizations will never have democracy unless they win it for themselves. All that a report like this can do is to set things going in the brain cells of trade unionists.

Amalgamated Appoints Negro As Union Head

Bee (Magazine Section

Chicago, Ill

NEW YORK, Dec. 16. (ANP)—Former Asst. Mgr. Neal C. A. Walter was promoted co-manager of the Laundry Workers' Joint board, at a meeting of delegates of the Laundry Workers' Joint board, held here last week. Executive Vice-President Frank Rosenblum said that Walter's appointment to this high post was in recognition of his splendid record during his years of service to the laundry workers' union as an organizer, business agent and assistant manager.

Walter has been an integral part of the Negro leadership in the organized labor movement in New York City for more than 10 years. He was among a small pioneer group in 1937 that successfully established the present laundry workers' organization known as the Laundry Workers' Joint board. The laundry workers organization today has more than 20,000 white and Negro members employed in laundries in Westchester, New York City, Nassau and Suffolk counties and in Northern New Jersey.

Walter is also chairman of the New York State CIO committee against discrimination.

General

Racial Amity Program

Unions Need to Back Their Race Declarations With Ready Cash

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

BY HORACE R. CAYTON

AUG 1943

THE test of the sincerity of unions on the Negro question is how much money they are willing to put into a program for racial amity. On paper, all of the CIO unions have a forthright and honest position. Many international unions have set up interracial committees. Still other unions have interracial programs. However, the real test is how much money the unions are willing to put into the program. These declarations, committees and programs are as good as the amount of money there is to back them up.



Mr. Cayton

Let us take a couple of examples. The National Maritime Union has a program and has put money into this program and has obtained results. Of all the CIO unions, it has been, perhaps, the most successful in integrating Negroes into the Maritime industry and fighting for their rights generally. The reason for their success is simple. They back their slogans with hard cash.

UAW CHIEF DARED TO FIGHT KLANS

Then take the United Automobile Workers. They have had a lot of racial trouble, probably more than any other union in the country, but they have had a tougher situation to face. Operating in Klan-ridden Detroit with thousands of green Southern white workers to amalgamate, it is no surprise that they should have 35 hate strikes in a two-year period. But the leadership of that union, especially its president, R. J. Thomas, has taken as decent a stand on racial matters as any person in the United States. No Negro can complain of his behavior during the Detroit riots and their aftermaths. There is talk, they say, of electing him mayor of Detroit. I am not only for that. I would just as soon see him President of the United States or, at least, Secretary of Labor. Here is a man who has dared to fight against the Klan and all other subversive movements, right in his own international.

WHEN it comes to the test of putting up cold cash to implement his ideas, Thomas and the United Automobile Workers will pass with flying colors. They don't just mouth phrases; they put out money to get a job done. If they have not been as successful as the National Maritime Union, it is because they have had a much more difficult problem to deal with.

SOME EXAMPLES OF EFFECTIVE WORK

These are just two unions. There are many more which have seen the necessity of protecting themselves by putting money and energy behind an effort to solve the race problem. They have realized that they would have to work in the Negro community and through Negro organizations to be successful. They further realize that especially trained men would have to be put on the payroll to do this important job. And they didn't just give token representation either. They hired the number of men necessary and appropriated enough money to carry through a program.

LET me give you a few examples of what the Automobile Workers are doing. They have worked closely with the NAACP, not just spoke at mass meetings, but have worked out some joint programs for the two organizations. They have worked with church groups in the Negro community and have encouraged groups of Negro laborers interested in educational forums. They have taken full-page advertisements in the Negro press. Their latest educational venture was a pamphlet entitled, "To Unite . . . Regardless," and this is just one of a series which has had wide circulation.

UNIONS FIGHT A TOUGH FIGHT

The unions are up against a tough fight—the whole trade union movement can be wiped out by the current reactionary wave. Similarly, the Negro is in a position to lose many of his gains. That there is a community of interest, most intelligent labor unions would not deny. However, not enough of them have organized racial committees, developed programs and, especially, lay down the cash to carry them out. Trade union movements have spent money freely in other directions. They have had educational programs on legislation, they have made contributions to political parties and they pay good salaries to executives. This is all "okay" but it is time for them to appropriate substantial sums of money to work on this Negro problem. It is just as important as spending money to further a "roll-back price" program. It is more important than many other things they spend money for.

NEGROES are rapidly falling into the camps of political reaction. This may not be wise on their part but they were doing it anyway and largely through the inactivity of the present Federal administration, and, to some extent, the unions. If we have a reactionary president and Congress in 1944, due to the diversion of a number of Negro votes, the entire trade union movement will suffer. It seems to me that it would be smart to start to organize the machinery necessary to prevent this. That, my friends, will take work but especially cold cash.

NEED ORGANIZATION PROGRAM, MONEY

One last point. This is not another case of Negroes asking white people for money. The treasuries of all these unions were built up in part by the contributions of Negro members. It is an internal problem of the union which affects both whites and Negroes and which should be met by the common treasury with no feeling that something is being done for the poor Negro. Organized labor, composed of black and white workers, must solve this problem if it is to exist. What is needed now is not fine phrases, but organization, program and money.

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

Labor Forum

YOUR UNION CARD IS YOUR LIFELINE. In a broadcast over the NBC Blue Network, Joseph D. Keenan, vice-president of the War Production Board, pointed out last week that 85% of the American war workers are covered by union contracts. This means that for almost nine out of every ten war jobs a worker must hold a union card to keep it. For Negro workers this means that getting into trade unions, getting active in them, gaining leadership in them is of vital importance to the future welfare of the Negro people. All CIO unions admit Negro workers in line with the national "no discrimination" policy of the CIO. Most of them welcome activity on the part of Negro members. Many encourage Negro members to develop into leadership.



Mr. Weston

Threat to Worker

THE HOLD A CARD OR STARVE situation is a real threat to the Negro worker, where jobs are controlled by reactionary unions such as Tom Ray's local of the Boilermakers Union on the West Coast. The extent of this danger is shown by the reports that more than 50 Negro workers were discharged by the Kaiser Shipbuilding Company because they refused to join a Jim Crow fake auxiliary of Ray's outfit. Julius Rodriquez, president of the Negro Shipyard Workers Victory Council in the Kaiser yards, has just come East to confer with government and labor officials, to prevent further dismissals and reduction in production.

There are many white workers in locals such as Tom Ray's who are opposed to Jim Crow policies. In some instances, such as in the Los Angeles and Seattle lodges of the Machinists union, they have taken action to open the doors of the locals to Negro workers. What is needed now is an ORGANIZED CAMPAIGN BY THE WHITE MEMBERS IN JIM CROW UNIONS, to put an end to all the Tom Rays and their anti-labor policies of discrimination. Such an organized movement among the rank and file members is both possible and necessary.

By M. Moran Weston

Havana Labor Conference

The current sessions of the Executive Council of the Confederation of Latin American Workers, representing the organized workers from the Rio Grande to the Straits of Magellan, including Puerto Rico and Cuba, are of great interest to Negroes. The sessions began in Havana on July 26. Two of the proposals up for action are: A world conference of labor; and affiliation with the British and Soviet Labor Committee. Both proposals are in the direction of international cooperation and eventual federation of labor organizations in all anti-fascist countries, including the colonial areas. For the colored peoples of the world this development is of prime importance. The CIO sent a fraternal delegation to the Havana conference, headed by Jacob Potofsky, chairman of the CIO Latin-American Affairs Committee, and secretary-treasurer of the powerful Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union.

Smith-Connally Bill a Bommerang

The most brazen piece of political knavery ever pulled off in Congress was the passage of the Smith-Connally, so-called anti-strike, bill. With the help of John L. Lewis, the anti-labor press and the balance of the anti-war clique, the poll tax congressmen hypnotized the people with the false fear that strikes were about to cripple the war effort and sold them the bill of goods that a law to "outlaw" strikes was the only way out. But with shameless hypocrisy, Smith and Connally slipped a clause in the bill forbidding unions to make contributions to the election of candidates for public office. This was a dream come true: to put labor in a straight-jacket.

But they over-played their hand this time. This little joker is about to become the worst boomerang the poll taxers could have cooked up. The CIO has as a result already swung into political action in a big way. It has set up a national political committee headed by Sidney Hillman of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union. Community political committees are being organized through the unions. The CIO is out to blast out of office the anti-labor congressmen and to re-elect President Roosevelt. Joint political action between CIO and AFL and railroad unions is taking shape. **The poll taxers went to the anti-labor well once too often.**

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Demonstrations a Guide to Strategy of Colored People During Post-War Years

By ELMER CARTER

There is overwhelming evidence of a deliberate effort on the part of certain elements of our population to head off the integration of colored men and women into American industry except as unskilled laborers.

The walk-out at Mobile, Ala., a few weeks ago, and the more recent strike of 20,000 workers in the Packard plant in Detroit because three colored workers had been upgraded to jobs requiring skills, has all the earmarks of being engineered either by Axis agents or by unregenerate, transplanted Southerners. They see in the breakdown of the pattern of racial segregation in industry the doom of that system by which the measure of man is the color of his skin, and are panicky lest the unfair advantage they have possessed for 300 years be on its way out.

It could not have happened if the management of the shipyard in Mobile and the Packard plant in Detroit had at the outset taken a firm and forthright stand.

In all instances of mass walk-outs such as these, the agitation is initiated and sustained by a very small and insignificant group of about fifteen or twenty men. The number of the rank and file who would risk their jobs because of agitation and is able to identify the ringleaders. And here this agitation is continued without censure, it is assumed by the great mass of workers that antipathy toward colored workers has the sanction and the blessing of the management.

Management Aware

They are persuaded, cajoled, and threatened by a few vicious leaders strategically situated in various departments. Often the propaganda is spread by petty

the post-war years. They reveal the nature of the struggle that impends when millions of jobless soldiers return from the battlefields of Europe and Asia and Africa. There should be do doubt now in the mind of the colored man as to any plan of action.

The time for silly maneuvering for priority in leadership is over. The time to gird for the greatest struggle in his history is at hand. It will be, in truth, a struggle for his survival as a free citizen in this republic as it will a struggle for survival of democracy itself.

Just because the strikers belong to the CIO union it would be the height of folly for colored workers to shun the ranks of organized labor. If the events at Mobile and Detroit have one lesson, it is that colored workers everywhere, in every occupation, every level, should join the ranks of organized labor. If there is no union in the occupation in which they are engaged, they should start one. It is obvious that any other course will be fatal.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

NLRB Denies Bargain Unit Based on Color

MEMPHIS — The National Labor Relations Board ruled last week that the color and race of employees is irrelevant in determining the appropriate unit for collective bargaining.

In keeping with this ruling, it ordered that an election shall be held within thirty days among the employees of the U.S. Bedding Company to determine whether the workers wish to be represented by the AFL's Upholsterers' International Union, Local 417, by the CIO'S United Furniture Workers, Local 282, or by neither.

AFL For Color Bar

The company and AFL officers opposed an election, contending that the bargaining unit sought by the CIO would be dominated by unskilled and transitory colored workers, urging that the bargaining agency be confined solely to skilled employees. The CIO local, at present having only colored members, insisted that the unit include all workers. The company employes 214 men in the ratio of about three skilled to seven unskilled.

In rejecting the contentions of the company and the AFL, the board stated that the color or race of employees is an irrelevant and extraneous consideration in determining the unit appropriate for collective bargaining, and that the national policy as stated by President Roosevelt is opposed to discrimination on racial grounds.

PHILA. LABOR PLAZA A NATIONAL MODEL

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.



IT'S SERVICE WITH A SMILE for soldiers, sailors, marines and their dates at Philadelphia's Labor-USO Plaza, built and operated by the CIO and AFL unions in the city. The most successful project of its kind in the nation, the Plaza is open to servicemen of every United Nation, with no color bar whatsoever. Robert Parker, area director for the Nat'l CIO War Relief Committee, reports that there has not been a single disturbance at the center which already to the few brief weeks of its existence has entertained more than 250,000 servicemen and their guests. Proof of the effectiveness of this enlightened policy is in this picture; the Philadelphia cop assigned to the Plaza has so little to do that he spends hours helping the CIO and AFL hostesses. Unique, too, is that nothing costs more than a nickel. The canteen bar shown above borders on a huge dance floor that accommodates more than 1,000 couples. From coast to coast, other cities and unions are now considering similar projects with the same policy of no discrimination.

Labor Unions and the Negro

The United Automobile Workers of America (CIO) is holding its annual convention in Buffalo this week. Previously scheduled to be held in St. Louis, the officials of the union changed their meeting place from the Mound City to Buffalo, because St. Louis hotels refused to give Negro UAW delegates lodging. Generally speaking, the UAW has done almost everything possible to live up to its policy of racial equality in all union affairs. The switching of its convention to Buffalo is only one of many instances in which the union has gone down the line for its colored members when the color question was raised. Another instance of the UAW-CIO championing the cause of justice and the Negro was during and after the recent Detroit riot, when R. J. Thomas, its president, took the lead fighting for the rights of colored Detroiters.

All of this is of extreme importance to the future of Negroes in trade unionism in the United States. The UAW-CIO is the largest union in the country with about a million members. Approximately 100,000 of them are Negroes, about 50,000 of whom are working in Detroit's war plants. The recording secretary of the UAW-CIO locals in all three Ford plants in Detroit (River Rouge, Willow Run and Highland Park plants) are Negroes. Their salaries range up to $4,500 a year, which is about one-half of what President Thomas gets. Each of the three Negro recording secretaries was elected by white UAW members, since a large majority of workers in each plant are white.

When he was elected UAW-CIO president in 1938, Mr. Thomas declared that the union couldn't exist without the support of Negro workers. He has repeated this many times since; and the attitude of the union toward Negro strike breakers during the Ford (River Rouge) strike in 1941 bears this out.

Fortunately, the UAW-CIO does not and never has displayed any official sympathy for Negroes. In fact, the union cares no more about Negroes than it does about Norwegians, Chinese, Jews or Greeks. It deals with Negroes as workers first, last and always; and that's the only reason why the UAW-CIO has succeeded in integrating colored auto workers into its ranks. Of course, it hasn't been easy. There are groups in the union (the Ku Klux Klan and its front organizations which do everything in their power to prevent Negro workers from being upgraded and otherwise recognized for their worth. Eight or more hate strikes pulled by Kluxers and other Negro hating groups in the UAW in the first six months of this year in which three million man-hours of work were lost on critical war production are proof of the bitter attitude of die-hard Negrophobes in the union.

What makes the UAW-CIO so important to all colored Americans is the fact that the position of Negro workers in U. S. industry during and after the war may be determined in large measure by what happens to them in this great union. R. J. Thomas and other UAWers have sense enough to know that their union can't survive and flourish unless Negroes are accepted equally and promoted on a basis of merit.

One thing is certain. Trade unionism will never attain the positions of power and respectability it deserves until all unions admit colored workers on a basis of equality. For every colored worker barred from a union stands as a threat to it. Employers in Detroit and elsewhere have always used Negroes to prevent their plants from being organized, and they will continue to do so as long as white workers bar colored ones from their unions.

R. J. Thomas had the sense and honesty to come out and say that the UAW-CIO couldn't survive unless it accepted Negro workers equally with all others. The success of his union in the hitherto toughest "company town" in the country is plenty proof that he was right.

35i-1943
Bystander

Des Moines, Iowa

LABOR MUST ABIDE BY RULES

MAY 6 19

The Bystander has always fostered the cause of organized labor which does not discriminate against a man because of his race or color. It has done so because it has felt that labor is entitled to a fair share of the nation's income, because organized it could secure for itself better working conditions. It has done so because most Negroes are laborers and whatever benefit came to labor as a whole, helped them.

MAY 6 1943

On the other hand, the Bystander has opposed high-handed methods adopted by any group to achieve its ends. And unfortunately we have had entirely too much of it in recene years. As a matter of fact, the Bystander has been rather partial to John L. Lewis because he has used his influence to help ALL labor, he has not drawn the color line.

However, in this present coal crisis, we cannot support Mr. Lewis' position. First, we are at war and no man or group of men has the right to curtail needed production for the prosecution of the war; second, if the government sets up an agency to handle problems—as the War Labor Board is charged with labor problems—no man has the right to ignore it. If that is permitted, we might well let any other person or group ignore the courts or other instruments of government set up to settle problems that arise from time to time.

MAY 6 1943

Already, the administration has allowed too much of this sort of conduct. In fact, disorder has been encouraged in some instances in the past; it is being encouraged in some quarters today. But the government must settle this trouble in the interest of the war effort, otherwise there is no telling where this sort of thing will lead.

MAY 6 1943

General

Rickenbacker Lauds Chattel Slavery

APR 29 1943

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Edward V. Rickenbacker praised the chattel slavery system of the Old South, denounced the Wagner Labor Act and sneered at the Bill of Rights in a recent wire to the Attorney General of Florida, supporting an open shop amendment to the state constitution.

APR 29 1943

The wire savored of Hitler's "Mein Kampf."

"The slaves of the South, under honest and fair masters, had all the benefits of the four freedoms," said the aviation executive's telegram which Attorney General Tom Watson read to the joint labor committee of the House and Senate of the Florida legislature, April 20.

"They were free to worship," labor-baiter continued; "free to speak their minds, free from want and free from fear."

APR 29 19

SLAVERY'S FREEDOM!!

Rickenbackers eulogy of the chattel slavery when men and women worked under the lash and women were raped at the whim of their masters, was aimed at the press of the former slave states.

The Daily Worker, which presents it exclusively in New York, picked it up from a Florida correspondent, who sent us the clipping of the Tampa Morning Tribune of April 21.

It was kept out of New York commercial newspapers, such as The Times, the Daily News, Journal-American and others by the wire service editors or the telegraph desks, which used other parts of the open shop argument.

APR 29 194

After lauding slavery Rickenbacker went on to admit that the slaves 'didn't have freedom of opportunity until their emancipation."

APR 29 1943

"Certainly the writers of our Constitution or SO CALLED [our emphasis] Bill of Rights felt that the freedom of opportunity was included, but in recent years this freedom of opportunity has been abridged through selfish, malicious interests on the part of some of our arts through the enactment of laws such as the Wagner Labor Relations Act and other instruments."

The Labor Act, which Rickenbacker denounces, guarantees labor's right to organize for purposes of collective bargaining. It is part of Labor's charter of freedom and has been of immeasurable aid in building national unity in our country's hour of peril.

It is to the honor of the people of Florida that Rickenbacker's historical falsehoods and his slanders against labor were denounced before the House and Senate committees.

APR 29 1943

SOUTHERN LABOR'S REPLY

Otis G. Nation, international vice-president of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America, one of 300 labor representatives at the hearing, was sharp in his counter-attack.

Pointing out that the Ku Klux Klan was using Rickenbacker's propaganda against labor in its leaflets in the South, Nation said:

"When hundreds of thousands of members of organized labor are in the armed forces, when other thousands are on ships, carrying munitions through sub-infested waters; when other millions of them are in factories and in the fields producing for the war effort, such anti-union moves as these are a stab in the back."

The open shop amendment—since jammed through the legislature—says "the right of citizens to work shall not be abridged or denied on account of membership or non-membership in any labor union or labor organization."

Dan P. Ellis, of Jacksonville, representing the railway brotherhoods, and Wendell C. Heaten, former president of the Florida Federation of Labor, said that passage of the amendment would produce enormous disunity.

APR 29 1943

While the committees were meeting more than 500 CIO Negro orange pickers at Orlando, Fla., were signing a petition to the Farm Security Administration, pledging their utmost aid in harvesting the citrus crop in the interest of victory.

APR 29 1943

1700 Quit War Jobs In Three 'Race Hate' Strikes

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois
MAR 27 1943

MAR 27 1943

War plants in three mid-western cities were faced with dangerous work-stoppages, this week, as the result of a rapidly developing resentment against the use of Negroes in defense industries.

Utter disdain for the President's executive order demanding the setting aside of race discrimination was shown by an estimated total of 1700 white war workers who walked off vital jobs to protest the hiring of five colored persons and the promotion of 27 others in factories in Detroit, Canton, Ohio and Wheeling, W. Va.

Production of airplane engines was seriously hampered, Thursday, when 700 white employes of the Packard Motor company in Detroit, struck as four colored women assumed stations to which they had been assigned the day the previous day.

MAR 27 1943

CIO Tells Men to Return

Company officials said the women were hired on Wednesday and that there was no demonstration at that time. When they returned to their jobs the following morning, however, the general walkout took place.

CIO union leaders insisted they had done all they could to prevent the strike but their efforts were in vain. They promised a thorough investigation and held out a hope for an early settlement. The strikers are members of the CIO United Automobile Workers.

Two days prior to the Detroit strike, a walkout tied up production at the Gambrinus Works of the Timken Roller Bearing company, in Canton, Ohio, necessitating intervention by the War Manpower committee.

The Timken action was motivated by the promotion of 27 Negroes from menial labor tasks to jobs on machines. Approximately 662 workers laid down their tools in protest against elevation of the colored workers. This total included all of the white employes on two of the three shifts during which the plant is divided.

MAR 27 1943

Condemned by WMC

Brought to the attention of the WMC's regional director, Robert C. Goodwin, the latter issued the following statement from Cleveland:

"These employes have been upgraded in accordance with labor-management agreement and presidential order."

In a message to the strikers, he said: "Men, today you stand condemned in the eyes of your fellow-workers, our neighbors and your friends . . ."

Continuing, he said, "You are also defying the orders of the Commander-in-Chief who by an executive order has decreed that there be no racial discrimination. You are violating your own signed agreement by which the Negroes involved are promoted. You are also violating the pledge given by the national leaders of organized labor as well as the rank and file of organized labor that there would be no strikes during the war.

"Do you place your individual prejudices above the united will of our nation to win this war—or do you wish to aid the enemy by continuing to create disunity in our midst?"

MAR 27 1943

Wheeling Walkout

Spokesmen for the strikers made no secret of the fact the walkout was caused by anti-Negro feeling.

Finas Reynold, local president of the CIO Steel Union Workers, said that the strike was not authorized and that he had urged union members to return to work under threat of expulsion.

The third strike of the week occurred at the J. L. Stifel and Sons calico factory at Wheeling, W. Va., which company less than a year ago was the recipient of an army-navy combined "E" award for production.

Over 300 white employes walked off the job there when company officials put a lone Negro to work in the plant. Warren Chapin, manager of the factory, stated the concern has been working full time on war orders but had previously hired no Negroes.

Colored Worker And Organized Labor Fighting Together For Working Man

Philadelphia, Pa.
Tribune

THERE is increasing evidence that organized labor and colored Americans now understand that they have a cause in common.

During the recent election at the Sun Shipbuilding and Drydock Company at Chester, colored and white union men worked with each other to achieve victory for the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers, CIO.

Some people had hoped that colored people at Sun Ship would oppose the Union in such numbers that victory for the CIO would be impossible. These are still hoping.

JUL 24 1943

No one knows how many colored workers voted for CIO and how many supported SSEA. However, because of the large number of CIO badges and buttons worn by colored workers, it is safe to assume that large numbers of them supported the CIO. It is clear proof that colored people have learned that employment is not bestowed upon them because somebody loves them. They are convinced that their lot is tied up with that of the whole labor movement. Some organized labor leaders are taking a strong position on the question of equality of work opportunity for colored workers.

R. J. Thomas, president of the United Auto Workers Union, refused to yield a single inch in his demands that the union members who struck because colored employees had been upgraded in the Packard plant, return to their jobs.

The National Maritime Union demands at all times that its members, white and colored, enjoy equality of opportunity. Its practices agree with its preachments concerning equality.

Here in Philadelphia, after the Detroit race riot, the Philadelphia Central Labor Union, A. F. of L., the Philadelphia Industrial Union Council, C. I. O., and the United Labor Committee issued a statement in the form of a paid advertisement setting forth the need for racial good will; and pledged their support to the program of equality of opportunity to all.

All know that there are sore spots within the ranks of organized labor; that there are those in the labor movement who are opposed to equality for colored workers. But these grow less powerful as more enlightened men gain ascendency in the labor movement.

Some colored Americans once violently opposed to labor unions are now convinced that if organized labor and colored people join hands in the battle for the underprivileged, regardless of race, creed or color, the "Four Freedoms" will soon be the lot of all men.

There are many in the ranks of organized labor who agree and are determined that the workers of America shall unite for the benefit of all classes of people.

union do not hate each other.

"Ulysses W. Boykin, writing in the Detroit TRIBUNE, has correctly pointed out that 'Segregation breeds loyalties to the individual groups and misunderstandings. Segregation only intensifies unhealthy attitudes against the other race.'

"We therefore call on American trade unions not only to continue the work against discrimination which they are carrying on, but to increase that work, keeping in mind the need for fighting segregation on the job, as well as total exclusion and any other form of discrimination."



The LABOR FRONT

By GEORGE F. McCRAY

Anti-Negro Riots

THE VIOLENT demonstrations of anti-Negro prejudice by some CIO members who stopped vital defense production at the Packard Motor Car company in Detroit and at the Alabama Shipbuilding and Drydock company, in Mobile, are not due exclusively to outside "agitation." Undoubtedly such agitation was the immediate cause of the trouble, but not the basic cause. For that we must look further.

It is most encouraging to note that in spite of tremendous pressure, R. J. Thomas and other CIO international union officials stuck by the no-discrimination, equal opportunity principle of their unions. They insisted that the striking workers, under penalty of expulsion, return to their jobs and support the rights of fellow union members to be upgraded to better jobs according to the union contract.

And before sounding off against the unions involved in these cases, it is well to remember that the settlement of these and similar cases reveal the strong and effective support of Negro workers, in his fight for equal economic opportunity, can obtain through active participation in the labor movement. For with union support nearly every attempt in Jim Crow Negro workers into certain jobs and departments has been defeated.

But the greater fruits of these victories are often completely lost. Public agitation in the press over a strike against Negroes do nothing but harm labor and the cause of better race relations. Settlement of these so-called racial disputes in a manner consistent with the principle of equality in the labor movement is seldom reported.

This failure leads timid employers to fear that hiring or upgrading Negroes means trouble. Moreover, Negro-hating agitators far away from the trouble spot, never find out that the whole attempt to jim crow Negro union members failed completely. Yet, the most constructive work being done for better race relations today, is being done by CIO and other unions.

Lack of Education

FUNDAMENTALLY this failure to inform the public about the outcome of a so-called racial dispute plus the deplorable failure of the AFL and the CIO to carry on a systematic educational campaign for interracial labor unity are the real causes of such outbreaks as those that occurred at Mobile and Detroit. The agitators took advantage of a situation which the unions had failed to correct.

Systematic education is the most effective way to prevent the Klan and Negro-hating agencies and individuals from exploiting prejudice to gain selfish political and economic power over organized labor. These hate-spreading germs cannot be exterminated completely but the rank and file of the union body can be made strong enough to resist them. Further, in a country like our own with so many diverse nationalities and races and religions, an aggressive unifying educational campaign is essential to the progress of industrial unionism.

Cites Advantages for Negro in Trade Unions

Lorenzo F. Davis, industrial secretary of the Brooklyn Urban League, said in his latest weekly interview on the Negro in war employment that "American history has shown" wartime economic gains to be "more or less permanent." He emphasized the fact that, owing to present trade-union support the Negro worker is more likely to keep his job following this war than he was after the first world war.

"The Negro worker can do much to secure his own gains," Mr. Davis said. "Wherever he is working he should seek out and join the labor union for his trade. If he is refused membership he must fight collectively for his right to be included."

Once in the union, the Negro worker "must be an active participant and be ever alert to protect the rights of fellow Negro workers, seeing to it, if at all possible, that the door stays open to Negroes in the future."

Mr. Davis cited what he termed "a few examples of progress made since Pearl Harbor," naming department stores, retail chain stores and super-markets which now hire Negro salegirls, clerks, stockgirls, escalator girls and counterwomen. He said the utilities — "the telephone and the electric companies" — had hired Negro women as office workers only since this country entered the war.

"The telegraph services are for the first time training Negro women as automatic telegraph operators and general office clerks," Mr. Davis said. "Private and publicly-owned transportation lines have also found it practical to hire more Negroes as drivers and mechanics to meet their increasing schedules."

Since the war, also, he declared, "all the major chain restaurants, with the exception of Schrafft's," now hire Negroes.

It was his opinion that such economic gains "add to the Negro worker's store of experience, defeating any future argument that he cannot qualify." Jobs such as those of stenographers, clerks, receptionists, bus drivers and salesgirls, "which allow the Negro to meet the public in positions of relative dignity," help him to overcome certain misconceptions and prejudices on the part of many white persons.

Mr. Davis made this final observation:

"Such new jobs for Negroes offer the white worker the chance to work with them on the occupational level and to recognize Negroes as fellow workers with similar abilities as themselves, and thus fit to hold other than the servile jobs into which most Negroes have hitherto been forced."

Unions To Fight Jimcrow In U.S. Plants

American Trade Unions Asked To Act

NEW YORK — (SNS) — Pointing to the peaceful relations of Negroes and whites in Detroit factories during the race riots, Nathaniel Minkoff, chairman of the Workers Defense League's Committee on Discrimination, released a statement of the Committee calling for unions to increase their fight against discrimination and against segregation on the job.

Mr. Minkoff, who is secretary-treasurer of the New York Dress Joint Board of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, is vice chairman of the Workers Defense League. The committee's statement follows:

"Every account of the recent Detroit race riots reports that while in the streets the riots resulted in the injury and death to scores, not even a single fist fight occurred in the many factories where Negro and white work side by side. The significance of this must not be overlooked. Workers who know each other because they work side by side under the same foreman, facing the same wage and hour problems, and working together in one

Mayor, 200 Union Leaders Launch Jimcro, Poll Tax Crusade

People's Voice New York, N. Y.

NEWARK—Promising "all the help in my power," Mayor Vincent Murphy headed a long list of prominent speakers as the Negro Labor Victory Committee launched its program of activity last Monday night at a dinner at Essex House.

The program included vigorous talks by Jacob C. Baer, president of the Essex Trades Council, AFL; Irving Abramson, president of the State CIO; Moran Weston of the New York Labor Victory Committee, and Ferdinand C. Smith, secretary of the National Maritime Union. James B. Marshall, executive secretary of Local 68, Building Trades Service Union, AFL, was toastmaster.

To Meet Challenge

"The Negro Labor Victory Committee has a big job on its hands," the mayor declared, "and the trade union movement is the best place to start to do the job effectively.

"We must attack the matter of racial discrimination," he continued, "with the same unity and the same determination, and we shall." You may depend on me to give you all the help in my power. You must have people in public office who will meet the challenge and I, for one, am ready to meet it."

Baer and Abramson also pledged aid to the gathering of 200 trade union leaders and put special emphasis on the efforts of the labor trade movement, together with other liberal elements, to bring about passage of anti-poll tax legislation. Weston declared that the present manpower shortage will last "unless and until we, the Negro people, are fully integrated into the war effort."

Smith Demands Unity

Smith stated that more than 2,100,000 trade unionists are in the armed forces. "They are doing their job and we must do ours on the home front," he said. "We cannot expect to obtain the Four Freedoms if we are divided or permit ourselves to be led astray by false leaders, like John L. Lewis, who have private axes to grind."

In charge of the program was Thomas Edgerton of the executive board of Local 92, International Union of Gas, Coke and Chemical Workers and financial secretary of Hudson County CIO.

Over 400,000 Negroes In Labor Unions

Daily World

CIO Tops AFL In Membership, Survey Shows

Atlanta, Georgia

CHICAGO—(ANP)— More than 400,000 Negroes are members in good standing of labor unions in the United States, according to a report released last week by the Douglas-Washington institute, an organization devoted to the progress of labor and the Negro people through mutual understanding. The report revealed that 210,00 Negroes are CIO members, and 130,000 AFL members, with the balance distributed between the CIO's United Mine Workers of America and several miscellaneous service unions.

Since 1935 the incident of Negro membership in labor union has been on the increase, stated the survey and indications are that within the next few years the total will be almost double.

The CIO union with the largest membership is the United Auto Workers union, largest union in the world, and the United Steelworkers each with approximately 45,000 members. Four unions containing the highest percentage of Negro memberships are the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, the United Transport Service Employes, the Packinghouse Workers Organizing committee and the International Longshoremen's association.

Election Ordered In Memphis Plant Within Thirty Days

Atlanta, Georgia

WASHINGTON, D.C.—(S. N. S.)—Adhering to its policy of refusing to delimit bargaining units on the basis of race, the National Labor Relations Board today declared that the color or race of employees is irrelevant in determining the unit appropriate for the purposes of collective bargaining. The occasion for the statement was a Board decision directing that an election shall be held within 30 days among all production and maintenance employees of U. S. Bedding Co., Memphis, Tenn., to determine whether they wish to be represented by the A. F. L.'s Upholsterers' Int'l. Union, Local 417, by the CIO's United Furniture Workers, Local No. 282, or by neither.

The company, which presently employs 214 men in the ratio of about 3 skilled to 1 unskilled, and the A. F. L. union have maintained collective bargaining relations with each other since August 1941. The CIO union petitioned the Board for a collective bargaining election as the last contract was about to expire. The CIO claimed that the proper bargaining unit, with minor exceptions, should include "all production and maintenance employees" as was the case in the collective bargaining agreements between the A. F. L. union and the company. The A. F. L. union contended that the unit sought by the C. I. O. is inappropriate in that it would be dominated by unskilled and transitory Negroes; it urged that the appropriate unit should now be confined solely to skilled employees. The company contended that no finding with respect to the unit should be made at the present time because control would be in the hands of migratory Negro labor and because the skilled white personnel are allegedly excluded from having a voice in the C. I. O.

In rejecting the contention that the skilled employees alone should constitute an appropriate unit, the Board pointed out that both the bargaining history of the company and of the industry indicates that the skilled and unskilled are usually included within the same unit. Further, there is a close interrelation between the two groups and no functional basis was indicated which would warrant their separation. The Board continued:

"It would appear that the objection of both the company and the A. F. L. to the proposed industrial unit is based solely upon the ground that the C. I. O. includes within its ranks at the present time only Negro employees. That neither the company nor the A. F. L. opposes an industrial unit as such, is evidenced by the past bargaining relations between the two.

"The color or race of employees is an irrelevant and extraneous consideration in determining, in any case, the unit appropriate for the purposes of collective bargaining. We have consistently refused to delimit units on the basis of race, and the national policy has recently been stated by the President to be opposed to any discrimination on racial grounds.

"It is plain, therefore, that a finding that the industrial units is inappropriate because the majority of the employees in the unit are colored would be contrary to the spirit of the Executive Order and the established principles of this Board. The circumstances that the membership of the C. I. O., is exclusively colored is equally irrelevant. The record refutes any claim that the C. I. O. discriminates against white employees in membership or otherwise. The constitution of the C. I. O. International prohibits racial discrimination, and the record shows that no white employee has been refused membership. There is no warrant therefore, for assuming that the C. I. O. discriminates against white persons, and consequently no occasion for passing upon the question whether a union which denies membership to employees on the basis of race may nevertheless represent a unit composed in part of members of the excluded race."

As to the contentions of the company and the A. F. L. concerning the transitory nature of the unskilled and semi-skilled Negro employees, the Board studied the employment records of the skilled and Negro employees and found that the record would tend to indicate that the skilled employees are more transitory than the colored workers.

Labor Board Denies Plea For Color Line In Election

Defender - Chicago, Ill.

By HARRY McALPIN

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON. — A decision of the National Labor Relations Board combined with Southern jim crow practices may result in the unusual spectacle of a union composed of all Negroes becoming the bargaining agent at a manufacturing concern in the South.

In a decision last week, the NLRB declared that the color or race of employees is irrelevant in determining the unit appropriate for the purpose of collective bargaining. Accordingly, it directed that an election be held within 30 days among all production and maintenance employees of the U. S. Bedding Co. Memphis Tenn., to determine whether they wish to be represented by the AFL's Upholsterers' International Union, Local 417, (all white), by the CIO's United Furniture Workers, Local 282, (all Negro), or by either.

The company employs about 59 white workers, mostly in skilled capacities, and 157 Negroes, primarily in semi-skilled and unskilled capacities.

The company and the AFL union have maintained collective bargaining relations with each other since August, 1941. The CIO union petitioned the board for a collective bargaining election as the last contract was about to expire. The AFL union contended that the unit sought by the CIO is inappropriate in that it would be dominated by unskilled and transitory Negroes. In rejecting the contention that the skilled employees alone should constitute an appropriate unit, the Board pointed out that both the bargaining history of the company and of the industry indicates that the skilled and unskilled are usually included within the same unit. Further, there is a close interrelation between the two groups and no functional basis was indicated which would warrant their separation. The Board stated:

"It would appear that the objection of both the company and the A. F. L. to the proposed industrial unit is based solely upon the ground that the C. I. O. includes within its ranks at the present time only Negro employees. That neither the company nor the A. F. L. opposes an industrial unit as such, is evidenced by the past bargaining relations between the two. . . .

"The color or race of employees is an irrelevant and extraneous consideration in determining, in any case, the unit appropriate for the purposes of collective bargaining. We have consistently refused to delimit units on the basis of race, and the national policy has recently been stated by the President to be opposed to any discrimination on racial grounds. . . .

"It is plain, therefore, that a finding that the industrial unit is inappropriate because the majority of the employees in the unit are colored would be contrary to the spirit of the Executive Order and the established principles of this board.

"The circumstance that the membership of the CIO is exclusively colored is equally irrelevant. The record refutes any claim that the CIO discriminates against white employees in membership or otherwise. The constitution of the CIO international prohibits racial discrimination, and the record shows that no white employee has been refused membership. There is no warrant therefore for assuming that the CIO discriminates against white persons and consequently no occasion for passing upon the question whether a union which denies membership to employees on the basis of race may nevertheless represent a unit composed in part of members of the excluded race."

Concerning the contentions of the company and the AFL of the transitory nature of the unskilled and semi-skilled Negro employees the board studied the employment records of the white and Negro employees and found that the record would tend to indicate that the white employees are more transitory than the colored workers.

Hits Segregation

NLRB Denies Unit Based On Color Line

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Sept. 9—Adhering to its policy of refusing to delimit bargaining units on the basis of race, the National Labor Relations Board last week declared that the color or race of employees is irrelevant in determining the unit appropriate for the purposes of collective bargaining. The occasion for the statement was a board decision directing that an election shall be held within 30 days among all production and maintenance employees of U.S. Bedding Company, Memphis, Tenn., to determine whether they wish to be represented by the AFL's Upholsterers' International Union, Local 417, by the CIO's United Furniture Workers, Local No. 282, or by neither.

PACT STARTED IN 1941

The company, which presently employs 214 men in the ratio of about three skilled to seven unskilled, and the AFL union, have maintained collective bargaining relations with each other since August, 1941. The CIO union petitioned the board for a collective bargaining election as the last contract was about to expire. The CIO claimed that the proper bargaining unit, with minor exceptions, should include "all production and maintenance employees" as was the case in the collective bargaining agreements between the AFL union and the company. The AFL union contended that the unit sought by the CIO is inappropriate in that it would be dominated by unskilled and transitory Negroes; it urged that the appropriate unit should now be confined solely to the skilled employees. The company contended that no finding with respect to the unit should be made at the present time because control would be in the hands of migratory Negro labor and because the skilled white personnel are allegedly excluded from having a voice in the CIO.

SKILLED, UNSKILLED GROUPED

In rejecting the contention that the skilled employees alone should constitute an appropriate unit, the board pointed out that both the bargaining history of the company and of the industry indicates that the skilled and unskilled are usually included within the same unit. Further, there is a close interrelation between the two groups and no functional basis was indicated which would warrant their separation. The board continued:

"It would appear that the objection of both the company and the AFL to the proposed industrial unit is based solely upon the ground that the CIO includes within its ranks at the present time only Negro employees . . . That neither the company nor the AFL opposes an industrial unit, as such, is evidenced by the past bargaining relations between two . . . .

COLOR, RACE UNIMPORTANT

"The color or race of employees is an irrelevant and extraneous consideration in determining, in any case, the unit appropriate for the purposes of collective bargaining. We have consistently refused to delimit units on the basis of race, and the national policy has recently been stated by the President to be opposed to any discrimination on racial grounds . . .

"It is plain, therefore, that a finding that the industrial unit is inappropriate because the majority of the employees in the unit are colored would be contrary to the spirit of the Executive Order and the established principles of this board. The circumstance that the membership of the CIO is exclusively colored is equally irrelevant. The record refutes any claim that the CIO discriminates against white employees in membership or otherwise. The constitution of the CIO International prohibits racial discrimination, and the record shows that no white employee has been refused membership. There is no warrant, therefore, for assuming that the CIO discriminates against white persons, and consequently no occasion for passing upon the question whether a union which denies membership to employees on the basis of race may nevertheless represent a unit composed in part of members of the excluded race."

As to the contentions of the company and the AFL concerning the transitory nature of the unskilled and semi-skilled Negro employees, the board studied the employment records of the skilled and Negro employees and found that the record would tend to indicate that the skilled employees are more transitory than the colored workers.

Pursuit Of Democracy

Labor Unions Will Not Be Abolished, Yet Episcopal Church Lines Up Against Them

BY MARJORIE McKENZIE

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

THE 54th TRIENNIAL convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, meeting in Cleveland last week, concerned itself chiefly with the retirement age of bishops and with voting against gingerly reports on the proposed liberalization of church canons governing remarriage of divorced persons. It took time out, however, to deal a blow to labor unions and in that connection made some statements which should prove very interesting to minority group workers.



Miss McKenzie

Whenever the church departs from solely ecclesiastical affairs and devotes its attention to mundane matters, the laity should take notice. The Christian church has found it difficult, no doubt, to adjust a religion of peace to the demands of war. Consequently, the harassed people of a war-torn world have learned not to expect much assistance on such practical matters, for instance, as to what political party to vote for, how to evaluate or redirect U. S. foreign policy, or whether to join a labor union.

Strangely enough, the Episcopal church, which is itself the result of the English crown fight against domination by the Roman Catholic church nearly five centuries ago, has gone on record as being opposed to organized labor. I have not seen the conference statement, but newspaper reports indicate that the stand of the church has been amplified by a repudiation of the theory of equal opportunity.

TAKES STRONG STAND AGAINST LABOR

IT IS inconceivable, of course, that the basis of the Christian ethic, namely, the brotherhood of man and the fatherhood of God, could have escaped the Episcopalian bishops and delegates while they labored over their contribution to industry and modern economic thought. They could hardly fail to see the close analogy between labor organization and the achievement of the ideal of universal brotherhood. It causes one to wonder mightily what side they are on and leaves but faint hope that perhaps they are merely confused.

The most ardent labor union enthusiast will not argue that unions are perfect, but they seem to be a development consonant with the sacrifice of the early Christian martyrs. Many still exclude Negroes and Mexicans by constitutional provision or ritual. There are a few picketeering labor leaders it will be admitted. Some of the true friends of organized labor think that it ought to clean house voluntarily to prevent hostile legislation which will permit government management of internal union affairs. Nevertheless, there seems to remain little doubt that organized labor is here to stay and the American people are beginning to accept the idea very much as have the people of Great Britain, an Anglican stronghold.

IN VIEW of the fact that all that can be hoped for is reform, not abolition, it is indeed odd that the Episcopal church in the U. S. has set its strength against the tide.

BODY BLOW STRUCK AT JIM CROW UNIONS

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

WASHINGTON — A ten-year-old bitter fight to wipe out jim crowism in American trade unions seemed certain of success this week as one Federal Government agency after another got in its blows against jim crow unions. In swift succession, unions which for more than a quarter of a century have erected color bars to membership and union privileges, found themselves under attack from many quarters.

Here is the blow-by-blow description of what has happened to jim-crow unionism in the last two weeks:

1. This week the National Labor Relations board told the A. F. of L. Bay Cities Metal Trades' Council of San Francisco, Calif., that if the Council won collective bargaining elections ordered by the board it must abide by the President's Executive Order against discrimination. Said the board: "We entertain grave doubt whether a union which discriminatorily denies membership to employees on the basis of race may nevertheless bargain as the exclusive representative in a unit composed in part of members of the excluded race."
2. This week the FEPC told the International Boilermakers' union that its plan of restricting Negro membership to auxiliary locals, with no voting privileges, was illegal, and that Negroes were not bound to pay dues unless they were given full membership rights.
3. This week, the War Labor Board, after listening to anti-Negro arguments of an independent union at the Point Breeze plant of the Western Electric company, in Baltimore, Md., to the effect that jim-crow toilets were necessary because of "high disease rates among Negroes," seemed likely to declare that the company's refusal to set up jim-crow toilets did not constitute a legitimate right for the union to strike, despite its earlier strike vote over this issue.
4. Last week, a Federal court in San Francisco granted a temporary restraining order, prohibiting the Marinship company from carrying out its agreement with the Boilermakers' union to fire 500 Negro workers for non-payment of dues to an auxiliary local union.
5. Two weeks or so ago, the FEPC, in its railroad decisions, ordered seven railroad unions to cease and desist all discriminatory practices, and declared to be null and void, any union-railroad contracts containing discriminatory provisions.

These hard blows against jim-crow unions would seem to add up to this: A union which bars Negroes from full membership has no right, under the National Labor Relations Act, to become exclusive collective bargaining agency in a bargaining unit, even if a majority of the workers vote for it in the election. A jim-crow union cannot enforce its contracts if they contain discriminatory clauses; nor can it enforce a closed shop agreement calling for the employer to hire only dues-paying union members, if it keeps some of its members in non-voting auxiliaries. The old practice of organizing Negroes into voteless auxiliary locals is killed.

22 AFL UNIONS ARE AFFECTED

These developments promise far-reaching results. In the first place they affect the validity of membership color bars in the constitutions of some 22 American Federation of Labor international unions, as well as in a number of large independent railroad brotherhoods. With the breakdown of these jim-crow barriers, the virtual exclusion of Negro skilled workers from high-paying crafts as machinists, plumbers, railroad engineers, boilermakers, and electricians, seems certain to end. Faced with loss of fundamental union rights of collective bargaining, and the right to use Government agencies to enforce union contracts, no course seems open to the jim-crow unions other than that of ending their anti-Negro policies.

These sudden and effective attacks on the jim-crow unions recall the history of a bitter struggle to end their jim-crow practices. As early as 1918, Negro leaders—among them Eugene Kinckle Jones and Emmett J. Scott—met with A. F. of L. President Samuel Gompers, in an effort to correct the situation. Still later, A. Philip Randolph and Milton J. Webster, of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, fought in several annual conventions of the A. F. of L. for adoption of a resolution barring jim-crow unions. Year after year the convention turned them down.

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DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

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No New Turn In Garbage Strike

Daily World

Atlanta, Georgia

Atlanta's garbage strike extended another day Tuesday, while Mayor Hartsfield, after appealing to the Atlanta Federation of Trades to see that striking employes return to their jobs, issued a statement to the public, declaring that the sovereignty of local government must be maintained and services continued to assure the health and safety of the community.

The mayor and city department heads agreed that Albert Gossett, labor federation president, should have a reasonable time to seek the return of all workers.

Council completely ignored the strike at its meeting Monday. Council however, did approve a Finance Committee recommendation granting salary increases to 238 employes, mostly Negroes. The increases total $20,212 for the rest of the year.

Laundry Workers Back At Work

Daily World

Atlanta, Georgia

Nearly 300 colored and white workers, mostly Negroes, were back at May's Laundry, 520 West Peachtree Street, NW, Tuesday after a 12-hour strike Monday.

They returned to work following a conference Monday night with a representative of the War Labor Board.

Representatives of the Laundry Drivers and Helpers' Union, local 859, said the strike was not authorized.

Russell Baker, of Atlanta Laundries, Inc., speaking for the May firm, said the strike came about because of the employes' objection to employment of a man who had supervised their work. The man had been transferred last Friday to other work, but the workers still objected to his presence, Mr. Baker said.

Constitution

Atlanta, Georgia

Negro League Studies Strike

In an effort to bring peace into the laundry industry of Atlanta, the industrial committee of the Atlanta Urban League, Negro civic organization, has made a study of the situation and, as a result; has made recommendations which it hopes may aid in solving the problem of the present long-drawn-out strike of the Gold Shield Laundry workers.

J. R. Henderson, chairman of the industrial committee, has sent copies of the report to Sam R. Greenblatt, president of Atlanta Laundries, Inc., and to E. L. Abercrombie, representative of the the laundry workers' union.

The laundry strike has now lasted more than 22 days. According to the report of the Urban League, this represents a loss of $4,000 in wages for each day of the strike. Despite all efforts at conciliation, the committee reports that 1,200 workers are still idle.

League Is Concerned.

The majority of the workers on strike are Negroes and the Urban League notes its concern, not only at the inconvenience to the public, but at the money loss both to workers and to management.

In order to resolve this condition, the report of the industrial committee urges both management and workers to agree upon some method of getting together and coming to an agreement of preliminary matters. That, according to the committee, would clear the way for a final agreement upon the points at issue in the strike.

To that end, the committee urges that the regional office of the National War Labor Board be invited to take a hand in the situation. At the same time, the committees notes that the 'sound and tested going rates for laundry workers in this area of the south are low wages, which, according to the War Labor Board, are "substandard wages."

The report continues:

"This much may be concluded about wages and prices in the Atlanta laundry industry: either the laundry industry does not charge as high a price as other cities of its size and class which pay higher wages to its workers, and, therefore, cannot pay higher wages, or, that the laundries concerned charge relatively the same prices and pay lower wages; that, either the workers are asking too much for their services, or, that they are already being overpaid. Between the dilemma of these conclusions rests the basis for settlement.

"We believe that the wages paid workers in the south are substandard, and that in many instances they have contributed to the region's deficit economy of cheap wages, cheap living and not-so-genteel poverty. We know that during these times especially it is impossible to maintain decent or comfortable living on wages now averaging 25 cents and less on the hour. Can not Atlanta set a higher premium upon the value of its labor? If a minimum of 50 cents an hour is regarded as basic for American workers, can we not seek to approach that level?"

Proposals Are Made.

Georgia

In calling attention to the desire of both management and union for a solution to the deadlock, the committee makes the following proposals:

"1. That the Gold Shield Laundries and the International Laundry Workers' Union jointly make voluntary application to Region IV of the War Labor Board for consideration of the establishment of fair and equitable price and wage policies in Atlanta's laundries that will meet the demands of both groups;

"2. That pending and during these negotiations the laundries and the unions agree to resume working relationships upon a compromise wage of basic 40 cents an hour, to which will be applied the "tapering principle" of increases for other workers. This plan will prevent the establishment of further intra-plant inequalities and will aid in decreasing such discriminatory differentials as now exist;

"3. That pending and during these negotiations on wages and prices the laundries and the unions agree to abide by such other patterns and principle of management and worker relationships as have guided them in the period immediately prior to their severance."

Concluding Statement.

In conclusion, the committee says:

"We believe that the War Labor Board can aid management, labor and the public in this dispute. It is not ours to decide whether or not the laundries can pay higher wages to the workers. We do know that the wages are pitiably low. If, however, both sides are willing to make concessions in their demands and will agree upon an interim wage of 40 cents an hour while voluntarily submitting their case to the War Labor Board, they will be rendering a distinct service to the community."

1,300 Atlanta Workers Strike For Equal Pay

Defender Chicago, Ill

ATLANTA—(ANP)— Demanding that the 18 cents an hour minimum they were being paid be raised to 45 cents to meet "rising living costs," more than 1,300 laundry workers, members of AFL locals, 218 and 214, Thursday walked off their jobs completely paralyzing nine of the city's largest laundry plants.

The workers, most of whom are colored, have been organized by the AFL into two locals, one white, the other Negro. The Negro local is the larger. John H. Glenn, secretary-treasurer of Local 214, the Negro auxiliary, asserted that in addition to higher minimum rates, his members are seeking salary equality, charging that the laundry operators, through a system of classifications, force Negro workers to toil at a lower scale than do white workers.

Laundry Strike In Second Week

Daily World

Atlanta, Georgia

The city-wide strike of laundry workers, now swinging into its second week, was no nearer solution yesterday than it was the day when the workers discontinued work.

Striking workers, who have been holding daily meeting at Wheat Street Baptist Church, in cooperation with their white fellow workers and the union officials, met again yesterday for the purpose of learning the latest developments on the strike status and to reaffirm their determination to hold out until their just demands are met by laundry officials.

T. F. Abercrombie, international organizer, spoke briefly to the more than 800 assembled strikers, pointing out to them the great merits of their cause and the overwhelming support of public opinion behind the strike. He assured each striker that no one would suffer and that plans are carefully being considered whereby adequate relief will be given to all who need it.

In addition, he told of the laundry officials' attempt to frustrate and render ineffective the work and purpose of the union check up system in their plants by encouraging the 500 or 600 non-union workers not to line up with the unions, in the hope that when such a strike as this occurred, these non-union workers would continue on their jobs, thus weakening the strike of bona fide union members. But instead, he concluded, all the laundry workers are today on strike and will remain so until their demands are met.

C. A. Scott, general manager of the Atlanta Daily World was then introduced to the body for a brief message. He assured the workers that he had followed the developments with a genuine degree of interest. He pointed out that if a large segment of the community receives sub-standard wages, the community as a whole would be adversely affected. Nevertheless he took advantage of the opportunity to admonish all of them of the necessity of proving their efficiency when and if they returned to their jobs at materially higher wages. He commended the orderliness and general decorum of the workers during the strike.

Other local organizers outlined the order of picketing, which should be carried on by the whites and colored, and pledged that whether the strike lasts a month or a year, one thing all may count upon, "none of these workers would operate in any of these laundries, until their honest demands are met by the management, despite and misleading statements which might appear in print."

Daily World

Atlanta, Georgia

Atlantans Told To Get Dirty Clothes

A strike involving 1,300 production workers of the Gold Shield Laundries had not been settled Saturday, although the laundries were advising their customers that they might call for clothing bundles the early part of the week.

The strikers, members of the Laundry Workers Union, Locals 114 and 118, A. F. of L., walked out of the nine units of the chain group at noon Thursday, demanding a minimum pay raise to 27 cents an hour as contrasted with the 18 cents an hour minimum in effect before the strike, and a 65 cents an hour maximum as against 45 cents

Atlanta Branch of the NAACP, addressed the group at a mass meeting Friday afternoon at Wheat St. church, W. R. Cochrane, executive secretary of the Butler Street YMCA, and Mrs. Grace Hamilton, acting secretary of the Atlanta Urban League, addressed the strikers at Wheat Street Saturday.

No settlement in the strike ap-

peared in sight late Saturday. An offer said to have been made by the ownership Friday through Gene Curtis, conciliator from the U. S. Department of Labor, had not been acted upon by the union membership.

According to

southern representative of the A. F. of L. "The laundry company has

peals to the

permit the War Labor Board and the proper officials of the OPA to adjust this controversy So far the management has not been inclined to be governed by whatever impartial decisions are rendered jointly by the WLB and OPA. The workers are willing to work immediately under proper and livable conditions."

A picket line was formed at the affected laundries Saturday.

Truck drivers, all white joined the walkout Thursday evening.

1,200 LAUNDRY WORKERS STRIKE FOR HIGHER PAY

Daily World OCT 8 1943

Atlanta, Ga.

Demanding that the 18 cents an hour minimum be raised to 27c and that improvements be made in their working conditions, approximately 1,200 laundry workers, members of AFL locals 218 and 214 walked off their jobs at noon Thursday. OCT 8 1943

The striking workers, a majority of them colored, were employed by Goldshield laundries, an organization of nine laundries operating seven plants.

The strike came as a surprise to management, according to Russell Baker, vice-president and treasurer of the Atlanta Laundries, Inc., who said that a new contract was being negotiated at the time of the walkout. Laudries involved in the strike are America, Capital City, Decatur, Excelsior, Guthman, Mays, Trio, Piedmont and Troy.

The laundry operators, according to John H. Glenn, secretary-treasurer of Local 218, with membership confined to Negro workers had threatened to withdraw the closed shop, checkoff system and seniority rights, all of which were contained in the old contract.

He said none of his members were picketing the plants involved. The union, he said, was seeking a 27c an hour minimum and a 65c an hour maximum, as against the 18c minmium and 45c maximum prevailing under the old contract which expired August 12.

The truck drivers, all white, joined the walkout Thursday evening.

gro women, while the counter offer is 22 cents an hour for a 50-hour week."

After the conference, the Mayor setn the following telegram to Dr. John R. Steelman in Washington with the approval of all concerned in the dispute.

"Since the last conciliator failed to get parties together and there is some question as to him having kept both sides in touch with various offers, therefore, with the knowledge and consent of both sides, we request that you need immediately another conciliator to see if he can adjust this matter."

A second plant of the chain group was said to have been opened Friday with practically a full crew.

Officials of the Laundry Workers Union said they would ask an advance in the date for a hearing on a temporary injunction granted by Superior Judge James O. Daivis of the Stone Mountain Circuit, restraining the picketing of the company's plants or molestation of officials or workers. Judge Davis had set November 26 for a hearing on whether the injunction should be pe:ma NOV 13 1943

The strike of 3,4 on production workers seeking a minimum 45 cents an hour on a 40-hour week basis, closed the nine plants of the system a month ago.

Laundry Strike Enters Third Week in Atlanta

Kansas City Call

ATLANTA.— (ANP) — The strike of 1,400 laundry workers, 90 per cent of [illegible] are Negroes, which has virtually paralyzed cleaning services to more than 75,000 Atlanta families entered its third week Wednesday with no apparent end in sight.

The workers, the majority of whom were being paid 18 cents an hour or $9 for a 50-hour week, are seeking a minimum of 45 cents an hour and time and a half after 40-hours. Management of the Goldshield laundries, affected by the strike, countered with an offer of 21 cents an hour with time and a half after 50-hours.

The workers, members of International Laundry Workers union, AFL, have been meeting daily at the Wheat Street Baptist church, where Tuesday they were addressed by C. A. Scott, general manager, Atlanta Daily World. Mr. Scott pointed out that if a larger segment of the community receives sub-standard wages, the community as a whole is adversely affected.

The strike has provided a new experience for Atlantans in that Negro and white workers are marching shoulder to shoulder on the picket lines flung around the nine laundries affected.

MEMPHIS ALSO HAS LAUNDRY STRIKE

MEMPHIS.—(ANP) — Charging that management refused to accord them union recognition, 135 Negro employes of the Model Laundry Wednesday failed to show up for work. Merril Jacobs, manager of the laundry, said that upon advice of his attorney, that he could no longer regard the workers as members of the International Laundry Workers union AFL. OCT 23 1943

The union had secured a contract for the workers a year ago calling for increases in pay and vacation with pay. The contract expired Sept. 28. Before expiration of the contract, union officials charge, Mr. Jacobs wrote each employe a letter stating that their vacation with pay was all off, and that they were not members of the union any longer.

Ask For U. S. Aid In Laundry Strike

Daily World NOV 13 1943

Atlanta, Ga.

Mayor B. Hartsfield Friday appealed for federal aid in settling the month-old strike by employes of the Atlanta Laundries, Inc.

The Mayor said delegates representing the strikers and the laundry managers met in his office to discuss the situation which Friday appeared to center about claims that a Federal conciliator had failed to transmit officers made by one side to the other.

It was stated that "the two sides are still far apart on the matter of wages. The union wants 45 cents an hour for a 40-hour week for the bulk of the workers, who are Ne-

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

35i-1943
Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

Illinois

FOUNDRY STRIKE OF 450 DELAYS WAR MATERIAL

Wire Sent to Steelman Asking Conciliator.

APR 2 1943

Production of war material at the Western Foundry company, 3634 South Western avenue, was stopped completely yesterday by a runaway strike of 450 employés. The strikers, most of them Negroes, are members of local No. 2674 of the United Steel Workers of America, CIO.

Lt. George Barnes of the police labor detail, immediately called a conference of company and union officials and sent a telegram to John R. Steelman, United States labor conciliator, asking that a conciliator be sent to the scene.

The strikers, later meeting at 3925 South Kedzie avenue, voted to remain on strike until they receive "a favorable reply" to their list of grievances. A committee of nine men was named to negotiate with the company.

Asserts Grievances Ignored.

Harry Harper, regional director of the USWA, described the strike as unauthorized. "We don't sanction strikes at this time," said Harper. "However, the company is considered anti-union, and has refused to settle a number of small grievances. Undoubtedly this provoked the walkout." Harper assigned Oakley Mills, a union representative, to help get the men back to work.

Company officials were not available for comment. Frank O'Neil, secretary, represented the company at the Barnes conference in place of Daniel Cullinan, president, who is out of the city.

Grievances Not Detailed.

The nature of the grievances of the strikers was not detailed, but most of the grievances, it was said, were of a minor nature. As a forerunner of yesterday's strike, 50 employés stopped work for a brief period on April 1.

APR 27 1943

The CIO union won bargaining rights over an AFL union last July. A wage contract dispute now is before the war labor board. So far as could be learned wages are not involved.

Birmingham, Ala. Age-Herald
July 10, 1943

FOUNDRY IS CLOSED BY RACIAL DISPUTE

CHICAGO, July 9—(AP)—Operations were suspended Friday at the East Chicago, Ind., cast armor plant of American Steel Foundries, the company said, when Negro employes refused to allow anyone to leave the works.

Albert Walcher, operating vice president, said a fight occurred Friday morning in which a Negro workman struck his white foreman. The workman was jailed.

Walcher said many garbled versions of the incident swept through the plant, which employes 53 per cent Negroes, and that as tension grew the Negro workers, virtually en masse, quit work and closed down the plant.

Representatives of the management and of the CIO United Steelworkers, which has a labor contract, conferred at once in an effort to quiet the ruffled racial feelings.

Walcher emphasized that no labor dispute was involved.

APR 27 1943

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

100 Whites Stage Walkout; Strike Over Washroom

Because three colored women employees of the Republic Steel corporation, 118th street and Burley avenue, used the same washroom as the white employees one hundred white women walked out of the plant Friday in proest stating they objected to the colored women sharing the toilet facilities with them.

Samuel Taylor, field representative of the United Steelworkers union, Local 1031, CIO, declared that the "wildcat walkout" was unauthorized and he was attempting to persuade the women to return to work.

The Republic strike parallels in a measure the "wildcat-race strike" that paralyzed the Packard Motor Car company for almost a week when 25,000 white workers walked out in Detroit when the management promoted three colored workers to higher positions.

The United Automobile Workers which represents the workers in the Packard [illegible] plant condemned the strike as being unauthorized, unpatriotic and stimulated by KKK and fascist elements. The Detroit strike was settled after several days and it was said that the colored men will hold the position to which they had been advanced.

JUN 20 1943

Negro Strike Cuts Output of War Foundry

AUG 15 1943

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

Granite City, Ill., Aug. 18 (AP).—A walkout of 400 Negro foundrymen from the armor plant of General Steel Castings corporation threatens to halt the company's entire production on war contracts, Karl Howard, works manager, said today.

The workers failed to report yesterday and only a few were on hand today, enabling the foundry to continue production on a limited scale by completing work partly finished.

AUG 19 1943

Walkout Unauthorized.

Clyde Huffstutler, business representative of the CIO United Steel Workers, to which the Negroes belong, said the walkout was unauthorized.

Huffstutler and plant officials said they understood the Negro employes were dissatisfied with working conditions, asked for greater representation among foremen and office workers and men in the plant. They represent about 36 per cent of the plant personnel at present.

35i-1943
Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Indiana

Hiring of Negroes Blamed For Strike Of 200 Persons

Evansville, Ind., Sept. 25 (AP)—The Chrysler Ordnance Plant today announced that approximately 200 employes of the leading department [illegible] The statement said most of the workers were striking in sympathy for forty-five employes who have been idle since Thursday in protest to the hiring of several Negro workers.

Pat Ross, United Automobile Workers (C.I.O.) local president, declined to comment.

200 Whites Aid Chrysler Plant Return To Jobs

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va

By JULIUS W. HOLDER

EVANSVILLE, Ind.—(ANP) — More than 200 white workers agreed last week to end a strike that tied up vital war production at the huge Chrysler plant here for several days after 13 Negro workers had been transferred to the salvage department. Chrysler officials, labor leaders, federal conciliators, and Army labor relations advisors meanwhile were in caucus seeking a solution to the difficulties.

The strike has been scored by both responsible union leadership and company officials as a devise that creates confusion, race hatred, a stoppage of war production, and plays into the enemy's hands. Originally only 45 whites refused to work after the Negroes had been transferred but later when 200 additional men and women from three other sections went out in sympathy with them, operation of the entire loading department employing 1,000 persons was crippled.

Chrysler officials issued a statement explaining the causes of the work stoppage that said in part: "This strike is contrary to the promise made by American war workers to the president of the U. S. not to strike. It is also a violation of the union's contract with the corporation.

"Any statement that Chrysler at any time has been unwilling to hire colored labor is strictly untrue. Chrysler corporation has been a leader in the community of Evansville in the hiring of colored labor and that colored labor has largely served it well. Any statement that Chrysler corporation tried to pay colored labor less wages for the same work being done by white people is also wholly untrue.

"NO SEGREGATION"

"The statement by the union that Chrysler corporation refused to segregate colored workers is true because the corporation has an agreement with the union in which it agrees that there shall be no discrimination among the workers because of race, color, or creed. Apparently the union wants to discriminate."

Local 705 of the United Automobile Workers (CIO) to which the workers involved belong issued a statement through its president, Pat Ross, which said in part that "In the beginning of the war production and manpower problem it was the corporation policy not to hire Negro people . . . The union requested WMC in Washington to send a representative here to aid us. The company then agreed to hire Negroes, but stated they could not segregate.

UNION OKAYS RACE BIAS

"The union then called special meetings of the two races and discussed the segregation problem. It was the feeling of both races that due to Evansville's proximity to the South, segregation would be the best policy.

"We again asked management to go along with the people's wishes and set aside certain departments for Negro employes, giving them the same pay rates and work classifications as in any other part of the plant.

"They refused to do this and we again had to call on the WMC and Austin Scott, a Negro, from the Chicago regional office, was sent down. With the fine cooperation and tireless effort of Scott and his contacts with the War Department we were finally able to get management to agree to take all white people employed at the time in departments 92, 93, and 501 out and replace them with Negro labor.

STRIKES CRITICIZED

"Since that time the situation has been 100 per cent favorable to all parties concerned except management. They have consistently tried to cause disunity between Negro and white workers by trying to force unfavorable working conditions on Negroes which they did not try to force on white people."

Another CIO union, Local 813 of the United Electrical Workers, charged the strikers with doing "Hitler's work" and those who provoke "strikes in war production plants as happened in our local Chrysler plant" don't believe in freedom and are not determined to win the war.

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

UNION ORDERS END OF RACE ROW STRIKE

AUG 3 1943

Tells Sparrows Point Shipyard Men to Work Today or Face Discipline

COMPANY BACKS NEGROES

In Hartford Police Seek 20 Negroes Who Beat Policeman—Melee in Savannah

AUG 3 1943

BALTIMORE, Aug. 2 (AP)—Workers at the big Sparrows Point shipyard of the Bethlehem Steel Company, beset since last Tuesday by racial disputes, were ordered tonight by their union to report to work tomorrow or face disciplinary action.

The yard was shut down from Friday until today following walkouts resulting from admission of Negroes to riveters' training classes. Sporadic work stoppages occurred throughout today.

Local 33, Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America (CIO), issued this statement:

"The union will not tolerate organized work stoppages nor will it allow racial discrimination. The shipyard will continue to operate for the benefit of the nation and the union will take disciplinary measures against anyone who attempts to impede this operation for any reason."

Meanwhile, the Bethlehem Steel Company announced that under a company-union agreement, Negroes as well as white persons would be admitted to the riveting school with advancement on "a strict seniority basis regardless of color."

New walk-outs today cut the working force at the yard to an estimated 20 per cent.

The manager, F. A. Hodge, said white riveters reported for work at 7 A. M. but refused to work. The men were asked to leave the yard, he said, adding that there were no disturbances.

More than 300 policemen stood guard at the shipyard.

Gov. Herbert R. O'Conor directed 113 State police and forty county officers to assist 150 company guards in patrolling the yard after he conferred with union representatives and a company official yesterday.

AUG 3 1943

PM
New York, N. Y.

Race An Issue In NLRB Vote

By Evelyn Seeley
Staff Correspondent

JUL 15 1943

BALTIMORE, Md., July 15.—The race issue is being used against the unions as NLRB election day approaches at Glenn Martin aircraft plant.

An anonymous card, aimed directly at the UAW, distributed two weeks ago throughout the plant, read: "If you want a Negro for a boss, vote for CIO."

The second, addressed to "colored workers," but read, of course, by others, said: "There is no segregation at Eastern Aircraft, no Jim Crow toilets, no Jim Crow pay lines, no Jim Crow cafeterias. If a union wins you win."

JUL 15 1943

The vote tomorrow, expected to be close, gives the aircraft worker four choices: UAW (CIO), International Association of Machinists (unaffiliated), the Martin Company union, and no union.

This is the second largest single plant election, second only to Ford's Rouge plant, and will vote close to 40,000 workers.

The 1500 to 2000 Negroes work, excepting a few, in the segregated Canton plant.

JUL 15 1943

Both unions are confident of victory and worry most about the "anonymous" no-union propaganda which has been aimed at the workers many of whom have no union experience.

JUL 15 1943

Of the 14,000 women workers, union organizers are hopeful of maybe 4000. Women workers, they say, have only a passing interest, expecting after the war to marry a soldier and raise a family.

It is the married man with a family and insufficient money for their support who is their best voter.

The pay here is 20 cents an hour under other aircraft in this area. It starts at 60c, whereas Eastern Aircraft (a General Motors subsidiary with a UAW contract) starts at 79 cents.

JUL 15 1943

Work hours are 48 a week and only a small percentage get those high wages you hear about.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Resume Work At Bethlehem

Maryland

Sparrow Yard

AUG 3 1943

The United Press reports that the big Sparrows Point yard of the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Co., near Baltimore opened this morning after a two-and-a-half day shut down caused by anti-Negro and anti-union agitators.

Workers said they were "glad to be back."

The yard shut down at noon Friday after several intermittent strikes had disrupted production during the week.

Groups of anti-Negro agitators incited the strikes. They struck against the entry of Negro students into the training school for riveters.

AUG 3 1943

HITS WAR OUTPUT

Philip Van Gelder, secretary-treasurer of the CIO's Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers, which has an agreement with the company, scored the Negro baiters in a statement following the shutdown.

AUG 3 1943

The trouble, he said, was caused by "irresponsible individuals and agitators who were not officers or members of the union.

"The union's position is firmly against any form of racial discrimination," said Mr. Van Gelder.

The shut down was a serious blow at war shipping. The Sparrows Point yard is one of the most important in the country.

Race Trouble Causes Strike in Maryland

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

By the Associated Press.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 14.—Picket lines were thrown around Baltimore plants of the Western Electric Co. today in support of a strike called by the Point Breeze Employees Assn. after the War Labor Board refused a demand for separate sanitary facilities for whites and Negroes.

A few hours after the lines formed, union officials announced they had given notice that all workers would be withdrawn within 72 hours from the power plant which supplies Western Electric's plants in the area. The move would cripple all the factories, the union said.

DEC 14 1943

Western Electric Group Adopts No-Strike Pledge

Afro-American Baltimore, Maryland

OCT 23 1943

Workers Opposed to Jim-Crow Walkout also Vote to Withdraw from Undemocratic Union

BALTIMORE—The Non-Partisan Committee, representing workers at Western Electric Company who are opposed to any change in the democratic employment relations at the company's Point Breeze plant, Sunday night adopted a no-strike pledge and voted to withdraw from the Point Breeze Employees' Association.

At a meeting at Odd Fellows' Hall, McCulloh and Lanvale Streets, attended by more than 500 employees of the company, a five-point program was unanimously agreed upon, which included:

Adopt 5-Point Program

1. The signing of a no-strike pledge by all present;
2. The pledge of each one to write the Fair Employment Practice Committee giving his personal pledge not to strike and stating his opposition to any changes in work relationships which would promote disunity among the workers;
3. The decision to withdraw all support from the Point Breeze Employees' Association;
4. The pledge to take an active interest in the programs of the two bonafide trade unions attempting to organize the plant, the International Machinists' Association, AFL, and the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, CIO, and
5. Agreement to watch for an announcement of the Non-Partisan Committee on the subject of union affiliation to be made a few days prior to any National Labor Relations Board election to choose a bargaining agency for employees at Western Electric.

Independent Union Hit

The PBEA was condemned at the meeting by Alexander J. Allen, industrial secretary of the Baltimore Urban League, who charged that the association had "sold out workers at Western Electric," among whom relations have been amicable for more than a year.

Mr. Allen also said that the minority of white employees who favored the strike for jim-crow sanitary facilities after the PBEA petitioned the NLRB were motivated by "latent fear" of prevalence of social diseases among colored workers.

He refuted this, asserting that each employee must undergo a physical examination before being hired, that prevalence of venereal diseases among colored people is "vastly exaggerated," and that medical authorities have disputed theories that such diseases may be contracted from sanitary facilities.

OCT 23 1943

White Man Creates Furore

A minor furore was created when Robert J. Prudhow, white, voiced his opposition to discrimination, but asserted that separate facilities were needed because the present ones were overcrowded.

When challenged on his statement by a member of the audience, Prudhow recanted and said that he hoped the difficulty could be settled without racial conflict on a democratic basis for all workers.

The strike ballot was held on October 5, with 1,800 voting for the strike and 1174 opposing it. The following day PBEA filed its intention to strike under the provisions of the Smith-Connally Act.

The Non-Partisan Committee is headed by Arthur N. Rogers, Jr., chairman; Mrs. Dorothy Jones, secretary, and Charles D. Blackwell, treasurer.

New York, N. Y.
PM

Why Do Negro-Haters Fear Chance to Prove Superiority?

By Albert Deutsch

The work stoppage last week at Bethlehem Steel's Baltimore shipyard over the admission of Negroes to a riveters' training school reflects the very worst aspect of racial bias—discrimination on the job.

Can you make sense out of this racist contradiction: the Negro-haters incessantly boast of white superiority, yet they always avoid opportunities to prove that superiority on the testing ground of fair competition? Nowhere is this contradiction more evident than in the economic field.

Fair play is a fundamental American principle. It includes the concept that every man has a right to work at a job for which he is suited, and that individual ability should be rewarded. The laborer is worthy of his hire.

Every American is supposedly entitled to a fair and square chance to prove his ability on the produ

DEC 4 1943

Job Discrimination

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

No Sportsmanship

What are these Negrophobes

afraid of. If they are really sincere in their boasts of white superiority, why do they fear competition with the "inferior" Negroes on a basis of equal opportunity? What true sportsman, confident of his own prowess, demands a head start, a permanent handicap, on his inferior competitors? There's only one real test of superiority: equal competition under the rules of fair play.

From its very beginnings, this Nation has struggled upward toward the ideal of equal rights and equal opportunities for all, with special privileges or special disabilities for none.

Thirteen million dark-skinned Americans who plead for economic equality are asking nothing that any member of a true democracy is not entitled to by virtue of his heritage. The sooner we grant them this fundamental right, the sooner we'll erase the greatest remaining defect in our democratic structure.

Strike of 100 Causes 30,000 to Lose a Day

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

BALTIMORE. — Approximately 30,000 employees, a third of them colored, were forced to lose a day's work at the Bethlehem-Fairfield shipyards, Sunday, when the continued strike of the 100 or more white crane operators made it necessary to practically close the yard for twenty-four hours.

According to the official announcement, many of the crane operators, striking because of a dispute involving use of their cranes in making some lifts requested by the company, returned to work Monday and the yards resumed work as usual.

Colored employees of the company are barred from jobs as crane operators but some are employed in the ground crew gangs working with the cranes, a company spokeman said.

Hate-Strike Union Had Defied Order to Disband

Baltimore
Afro-American

Frey Rider Said to Have Rendered NLRB Unable to Act Against Unions

BALTIMORE.—The Point Breeze Employees' Association called a strike for Friday while demanding separate toilet facilities for colored and white workers at the Western Electric Company's Point Breeze Plant, it was announced Monday.

The strike, being called under provisions of the Smith-Connally Anti-Strike Act, is opposed by colored and liberal white workers as undemocratic and a serious threat to war production.

The union sponsoring the strike vote is the same union which the National Labor Relations Board ordered disbanded last month on the grounds that it is company-dominated.

Order Believed Dead

However, this week Comptroller General Lindsay Warren in Washington informed the NLRB that the Frey rider to the NLRB appropriations meant that it could no longer act against company unions.

This is interpreted as tantamount to nullification of the former NLRB order disbanding the union.

Machinists May Be Weakened

It is also believed to mean that a competitive union, the International Association of Machinists AFL, which claims 8,000 members, is now subordinate to the Point Breeze Association, and the colored workers probably will be segregated if the strike is voted.

The only hope lies in the fact that the NLRB is to hold a hearing on the Point Breeze Association contention for separate facilities on November 25, when the alleged company union must show cause why its case should not be abandoned.

Toilet Strikers Refuse To Work

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

DEC 29 1943

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

BALTIMORE— (ANP)—At least 4,000 of the 9,000 employes of the five plants of the Western Electric company were still out over the week end here, and union officials in the opinion of the army, which is in control, were making very little effort to get their people back to work.

The army took control on Sunday, Dec. 19, instructions to Sec. of War Stimson by President Roosevelt, Brig. Gen. Archie A. Farr is in charge, and has stated that the army cannot negotiate until the workers have returned to their jobs.

Meanwhile, the War Manpower director, Henry C. Treide, has said that none of the striking workers, members of the Point Breeze Employes association, can get other jobs due to their ineligibility for certificates of availablity. It was learned also that the bulk of those employes which remained in are unskilled workers, and that the lack of skilled workers has virtually stopped production on vital war materials.

BARGAINING PROBLEM

The issue now seems to center around demands on the part of the employes' association for a protection of seniority rights for salaries employes some of whom while not a part of the association, did go out in sympathy with them. The company has refused to permit the association to bargain for a group which it does not legitimately represent.

The army thus far has maintained status quo. There has been no change on sanitary facilities for Negro and white workers, the crux of the dispute. Under he Labor Disputes act, the army may recommend action but it is for the War Labor board, which originally referred the case to the President, to say just what step should be taken next.

A real sanction which may be invoked against these strikers who remain away is reclassification and ultimately drafting into the Army.

The fear was rapidly developing that the employes' association was moving to spread the issue into the city of Baltimore, the success of which could have "terribly unhappy effects" upon race relations. Baltimore more than once has been described in official documents as a tension area.

To meet this threat, the Baltimore Urban league has been working in concert with other local groups to head off such a development. The Citizens Committee for Justice issued the following statement on Thursday.

'Race prejudice appears to be the cause of the strike. To allow racial discrimination to cause such a serious work stoppage in a vital war plant is nothing short of sabotage."

Employes Strike For Separate Sanitary Facilities

OCT 23 1943

BALTIMORE.—(ANP)— A strike for separate facilities for colored and white workers at the Western Electric company Point Breeze plant was voted last week under provisions of the Smith-Connally anti-strike legislation.

With less than half of the nearly 7,000 employes of the plant voting, 60.5 favored a strike and 39.4 disapproved, with 0.1 of the ballots ruled void.

OCT 23 1943

The voting was held under the supervision of Bernard Josephi, white field examiner for the National Labor Relations board, which ordered the vote on petition of the Point Breeze Employes' association. A petition of about 1,600 of its members declared they were opposed to the same sanitary facilities for both races at the plant.

The Western Electric management has long been recognized for its liberal policy in adhering to Presidential Order 8802, which prohibits discrimination in war industries on account of race, creed, color or national origin, and has steadfastly refused to establish separate facilities at the behest of what is believed to be a minority of the white employes.

The company's officials have insisted that they believed their policy was efficacious and workable and even after the resutls of the balloting had not given any indication that they would institute a change.

OCT 23 1943

Under the conditions of the Smith-Connally act, the strike vote has to be certified by the NLRB, the War Labor board, the department of labor and the President, and hearing is then set for discussion of all parties involved before the actual work stoppage is begun.

The United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, CIO, which attempting to organize workers in the plant, went on record as opposing the work stoppage and condemning the action of the independent union.

OCT 23 1943

The employes' association was ordered dissolved by the NLRB, in September, as the bargaining agency for the employes, because, the federal board charged, it was company dominated.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

Strike Arguments at West. Electric Bunk

Afro-American Baltimore, Md
DEC 25 1943

Officials of the Point Breeze Employees' Association, who called the strike at Western Electric Company's plant here last week, have flooded the city with all kinds of propaganda in their effort to demoralize workers.

Main contentions of the union officials are exploded in the AFRO'S analysis below.

THIS IS HOKUM

BECAUSE

Union officials maintain, that:

A majority of the workers wanted to strike because of separate sanitary facilities.

AFRO reply:

Only 319 workers, all members of the Point Breeze Employees' Association, out of over 6,000 workers, voted to go on strike. Through race baiting and intimidation almost 4,000 are reported out.

White people can pick up venereal disease from toilets used by colored people.

As a requisite to work at Western Electric Company, all applicants are given thorough medical examinations.

Unless separate toilets are put in, the entire plant force will go on strike.

Plant officials say that work will be continued at the plant.

That separate facilities are the main reason for the strike.

Plant workers accuse the union of using race hate as a means of strengthening the union.

Disorder cannot be controlled unless the strike is settled soon, basis of "settlement" being that the Federal Government knuckle to the union and grant its demands.

Police department has guaranteed order and if the local force is incapable, soldiers will be sent here, since the plant is a government industry.

Porduction at the plant has been virtually halted.

Although certain departments have been crippled, production continues at the plant, officials revealed last week.

DEC 25 1943

Workers will remain out until separate sanitary facilities are installed.

Workers of draft age are already being checked by draft boards, and if the President puts the plant under government control, dispersal of pickets will cause many whites to return to work.

Colored people are seeking to get out of place.

About a fifth of the workers at Western Electric are colored; none are members of the striking union, none hold supervisory positions.

The union will defy the War Labor Board indefinitely.

No union has ever defied the Federal Government indefinitely. Such a statement reveals the woeful lack of leadership in the union and the emphasis placed on racial hatred.

The aims of the strike are patriotic.

American troops in all parts of the world are fighting for their lives. Success depending on the valuable signal corps equipment made at Western Electric Company. The Point Breeze Employees' Association has called a strike to prevent colored and white Americans from using the same sanitary facilities, thus preventing manufacture of these vital war weapons.

Colored workers are a source of trouble.

Company officials report little or no racial conflicts and relate that colored workers are making an enviable record.

DEC 25 1943

35i-1943
Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Ford Workers Strike As Negro Is Fired

MAY 1 1943

DETROIT, Mich.—Production of Pratt and Whitney aircraft engines was threatened in the Ford River Rouge plant recently by a strike of 400 magnesium foundry workers whose product is vital to continued output of engines.

MAY 1 1943

A company spokesman attributed the stoppage, affecting two-thirds of the workers on the day shift, to a dispute between a foreman and a colored employee about ten days before. The employee was discharged, prompting several protest strikes during the weekend of April 17.

The [illegible] spokesman said the employees refused to work unless the company also dismissed the foreman. He said the company planned to discharge strike leaders unless the men reutrned to work.

Nashville, Tenn. Banner
June 3, 1943

Strike Threatens To Halt Output Of Packard Plant

Detroit, June 3—(IP)—Ninety-five per cent of production was halted at the Packard Motor Car Company today by a strike of workers protesting the upgrading of three Negro workers.

The company revised downward its original estimate of 20,000 strikers, but would not divulge the actual number involved. The employes are members of the United Automobile Workers (CIO).

A management spokesman said the walkout began early today when midnight shift workers in the buildup-teardown building walked out "despite company, union, Air Corps and labor department pleas that they carry out the Government's executive order that there be no discrimination (in war industries)."

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Hate Strike at Mich. Plant Bars Welder

FEB 13 1943

BATTLE CREEK, Mich. — (ANP)—An outlaw strike by sixty whites last week drove Clyde Hadiman, 26, from his new job as a welder's helper at the Duplex Printing Co. plant, holder of an army ordnance contract.

As 1,300 other white workers threatened to join the walk-out on the second day of his employment, Hadiman was transferred to a general utility assignment at the same pay rate.

Although all the white strikers are member of the International Association of Machinists, A.F. of L., union officials disclaimed any responsibility for the walk-out and said the organization could take no action.

Both union and company officials have received telegrams from regional War Manpower representatives ordering compliance with President Roosevelt's executive order banning discrimination in employment, and the local FEPC office has assigned an investigator.

FEB 13 1943

The union involved is one of those cited for discrimination last year by the FEPC. Its constitution has a lily-white membership clause.

FEB 13 1943

STRIKES TO PREVENT NEGRO EMPLOYMENT

Journal

Costs War Effort 3 Million Man Hours

Savannah, Ga.

Detroit, July 23—Strikes in this area to prevent employment and upgrading of Negro workers have cost the war effort nearly 3 million man hours the U. S. Department of Labor revealed this week.

JUL 29 1943

In a report, supplied at the request of the NAACP, the Department of Labor stated that between the three-month period of March 1 through May 31, 101,955 man days of work in U. S. war plants had been lost to the enemy because of racial bigotry. The Department of Labor lists protests against the upgrading of Negro workers as the chief reason for these strikes.

JUL 29 1943

Other reasons recorded are: hiring colored workers and demand for separate sanitary facilities; placing of Negroes in production departments; hiring of Negro plant guards; and refusal to work with Negro toolmakers.

JUL 29 1943

The War Production Board estimates that an additional one million man-hours were lost by the Detroit riot.

In another stoppage during the same period at the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company in Mobile, 23,467 man days of 563,208 man hours were lost in a strike and riot against the upgrading of colored workers to welders.

JUL 29 1943

White Workers Protest Upgrading of Negroes

People's Voice
New York, N.Y.

DETROIT, Mich. — The wildfire of racial clashes was temporarily banned here this week when more than 5,000 day-shift employees of the Packard Motor Car Co. returned to work Saturday in response to orders from the War Labor Board (WLB) and leaders of the United Automobile Workers, CIO. Starting as a protest against upgrading of three Negro workers, the strike had involved 20,000 workers.

JUN 12 1943

Trouble started wden three Negroes were upgraded to skilled jobs on the assembly lines. Several whites protested that they refused to work with the newly promoted workers, and so the Negroes were removed.

Also alleged to be the spur for the first protest was the Kuu uKlux Klan, long known to be rampant in the defense center. Union leaders have stated that Klan influence exerts a strong influence on far too many workers, ncluding several shop stewards. Many

When it became generally known that the three men had been pushed out, Negro workers staged a protest walkout. The three were returned. Negroes have been given the worst jobs in Packard as they have in most industries and when Packard employees saw that three of their number had the chance for advancement they were determined it should not be lost.

JUN 12 1943

Colonel Strong of the U.S. Armed forces and R. J. Thompson of the UAW met the protesting white workers and told them bluntly: "WORK WITH NEGROES OR GET OUT OF DETROIT . . . YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORK WITH THEM IF YOU DON'T WANT TO—YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORK."

JUN 12 1943

Says Whites Were Urged To Quit Jobs

Journal and Guide

Told To Refuse To Work Besides Negro Mechanics

Norfolk, Virginia

DETROIT, Mich. — Walter White, executive secretary and keynote speaker at the opening of the NAACP War Emergency Conference here blamed three officials of the Packard Motor Company for precipitating a strike of 26,000 white workers by urging the whites to refuse to work on machines alongside Negroes qualified by seniority, training and experience.

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"American boys will die on some far off battle field for lack of engines which were not made in Detroit today," White said. He was applauded when he added "every man responsible for this strike and every other one like it is an ally and an agent of Hitler and Hirohito and an enemy of America."

Three officials blamed were C. E. Weiss, personnel manager; George Schwartz, general foreman and Robert Watts of the personnel division of the strikers.

CONFERENCE OPENED THURSDAY, JUNE 3

The conference opened Thursday at the Second Baptist Church with delegates from 36 states represented.

Mr. White charged the responsibility for the stoppage of Rolls-Royce airplanes at the Packard plant directly to these company officials.

The delegates heard messages of greeting from President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Secretary of Interior Harold Ickes, Wendell L. Willkie and numerous other important public figures.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S MESSAGES TO CONFERENCE

"In every phase of war activity—on our myriad home fronts as well as our far-flung battle fronts — the Negro people have given unstintingly to our war effort," the President wrote.

"Colored Americans are now working in our war plants, turning out the ships, the planes and the guns with which we are carrying the war to the enemy. Negro youths from homes throughout the country are serving in the Army, the Navy, the Marine Corps, and the Coast Guard. They are fighting on every front and in every arm and branch of the service.

"One of the most significant contributions which Negroes have made to the war is on the home front in mobilizing Civilian Defense units, purchasing War Bonds, and supporting rationing programs while at the same time contributing largely to increased food production.

"Through these ofttimes unheralded activities, our Negro citizens have helped the United Nations by demonstrating that America is a united nation. It is my hope that your present conference will further accelerate all of these gains."

TREATMENT OF NEGRO IN ARMED FORCES TARGET

"While discrimination against soldiers and sailors in public transportation is notorious, there is needed a large body of documented evidence with the view of presenting the case to the Interstate Commerce Commission," said William H. Hastie, recently designed civilian aide to the secretary of war, urging delegates at the June 4 morning session of the conference to assemble such material.

In an animated three hour discusion on the problem of the Negro in the armed forces, delegates clamored for the floor to ply Hastie and the other consultants, Bernard Jefferson of O. C. D., and Henry W. Pope, U. S. O., with questions as to how their respective branches can swing into action.

Hastie expressed the belief that prevailing unsatisfactory conditions could best be remedied by the establishment of a Military Affairs Committee in each branch, such a committee being made up of the most able and conscientious members.

The committee would establish personal relations with commanding officers of the camp, the special service officers, and the civilian health and welfare agencies. U. S. O., Red Cross, etc. "Such a committee," Hastie said, "would not duplicate our job and we have little grounds for complaint."

Schuyler had urged that Negroes try to exercise control over picture production by actual financial interest, pointing out that other racial and religious minorities who have been presented as fools and morons on the American stage lost this characterization when they got economic power.

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SCHUYLER, DEUTSCH HIT PRESS, RADIO AND MOVIES

George Schuyler of the Pittsburgh Courier, who spoke for the Negro press said: "As long as a single white person is ignorant of achievements and contributions in eliminating the word "Negro" from stories of crime by Negroes in the white press.

Albert Deutsch, of PM, who spoke for the white press, pointed to some of the improvements achieved through the work of the association and other organizations in eliminating the word "Negro" from stories of crime by Negroes in the white press.

The Watchtower

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

JUN 8 1943

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—I have just left Detroit where the excitement of the week was the strike at the Packard plant. This is no big news to readers of either the daily or the weekly press, but perhaps the real reason for the settlement of the strike calls for comment.



Mr. Wilkins

As is now known, the strike occurred because three Negro workers had been promoted to work on machines. Some 25,000 white workers walked out and stopped making Rolls Royce airplane engines and marine engines for PT boats just because three men who were not white had been promoted.

We are at war. The argument was used, as it is always used, that Negroes should not insist on their rights at this time if such insistence would stop war production. Few people thought of an equally valid argument, namely, that white workers should not carry their prejudices so far as to interfere with the war effort.

But the union, the United Automobile Workers, CIO, refused to back down. It stuck by its constitution which declares for absolute equality between workers. It did not content itself with re-stating its written position, but it went to work on the problem.

Squabbles Not Wanted

The job was not an easy one. C. W. Weiss, an official of the Packard company, is reliably reported to have told the white workers they did not have to work with Negroes. Furthermore, within the union itself, as might be expected, there was not complete unity on the rights of Negroes. Some union men were in no mood to fight for Negroes being promoted. Then there was the army. It wanted airplane engines and it did not want any racial squabble holding up production. Then there were the daily newspapers, some of which were not friendly to the idea of a fight over Negro rights holding up the war effort. Besides, some of the dailies were waiting for anything to embarrass labor so they could crack down.

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In addition to all this, there was the presence and agitation of thousands of white southerners who have come to Detroit to work and who have brought, as they nearly always do, their beliefs that the communities to which they move should treat Negroes "like we do down home." The Klan was present. The old Sojourner Truth crowd was there.

The strike was dynamite, but the UAW tackled it head-on. The union worked with its shop stewards, from the ground up. The reason the strike was settled and the men went back to work is that the shop stewards, one by one, were convinced that the issue was one which had to be settled right, and not expediently. They convinced their men and production started again.

The dramatic climax came when R. J. Thomas, president of the UAW, told an audience of 20,000 persons packed into Olympia stadium for the final meeting June 6 of the NAACP emergency war conference, that he had "absolute proof" that the Klan had fomented the strike. The crowd literally raised the roof when he shouted:

"If the Klan wants a fight on this issue the UAW is ready to start fighting right this minute."

A Mighty Blow

This action by the UAW has first of all made millions of friends for organized labor among Negroes. Our people, even under the education campaign of recent years, have been slow to trust organized labor. They were afraid that when labor was faced with a straight black-and-white issue, it would back down, just as so many organized groups have backed down. But the UAW came through. Of course, this does not mean that all labor groups are perfect, or that all will react like the UAW in the future. But the Detroit action will go a long way toward convincing Negroes generally that organized labor is sincere and worthy of the race's cooperation and support.

In the second place, this action was a mighty blow in support of the general fight of the Negro for full democracy at home. It was a defeat for those who want to keep the Negro "in his place." The top leadership of the UAW and the shop stewards and white workers who met the issue squarely and fought it out without compromise have done a job for the cause of the United Nations.

Officials Fostered 'Race Hate'

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

JUN 19 1943

Union Leader Names 3 Who Caused Strike

DETROIT. — A charge that three Packard officials are themselves responsible for the striking of 26,000 white workers at the war plant here Thursday was made by R. J. Thomas, president of the United Auto Workers union (CIO) and by Walter White, national secretary of the N. A. A. C. P. which held its annual conference here last week.

Thomas called upon the U. S. Army Air Corps to discharge C. E. Weiss, vice president of the Packard Motor company and personnel manager of the plant. He also asked the removal of George Schwartz, Packard general foreman, and Herbert Watts of the personnel division.

Thomas accused the three officials of deliberately promoting racial discrimination in the plant and of urging white workers to refuse to work with three Negroes who had qualified for upgrading to machine jobs.

One Strike After Another

The 26,000 workers quit work when three Negroes were given skilled jobs on the assembly line. When some white workers objected, the three Negroes were removed. Then 2,500 Negro workers at the plant quit work in protest to the removal of the skilled Negroes. The three Negroes were returned to the assembly line. It was then that the 26,000 white workers struck.

The strike appeared to be broken Saturday, however, when more than 5,000 day-shift employes returned to their jobs at the request of the United Auto Workers union and at the order of the War Labor Board.

Thomas said that the management in a number of plants is responsible for labor trouble. "In a number of cases where we have had racial difficulties in the plants," he said, "the managements have attempted to wash their hands of the situation by saying that the white workers are refusing to work with Negroes. In this Packard incident, we have an open and shut case of the management fostering such an attitude after the union had taken a position in accordance with war-time regulations and American policies of fair play."

KKK Leader Fired

Last year, the UAW removed a worker from the plant, after trial and suspension on a charge that he was a Ku Klux Klan leader.

Speaking at the opening meeting of the N. A. A. C. P. Emergency War conference held here June 3 to 6, Walter White said: "Tokio and Berlin rejoice tonight at the effective and unexpected aid given them today by the management of the Packard Motor company.

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"American boys will die on some far-off battlefield for lack of engines which were not made in Detroit today," he continued. He was applauded when he added: "Every man responsible for this strike and every other one like it is an ally and an agent of Hitler and Hirohito and an enemy of America."

The Packard plant is making Rolls Royce airplanes.

KKK EVIDENCE AT PACKARD GIVEN STATE

Chicago Defender

Charges Klan Promoted Anti-Race Strike In Prosecutor's Hands

DETROIT, Mich. — Evidence which R. J. Thomas, president of the CIO United Automobile Workers, says proves "conclusively" that the Ku Klux Klan inspired the recent unauthorized strike at the Packard Motor Car company plant, was turned over late last week to Prosecuting Attorney William E. Dowling.

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Thomas told 20,000 persons at Olympia Stadium here on June 6, that he was in possession of "conclusive proof" that KKK agents fermented the walk-out which tied up vital defense work at the local Packard plant. He stated that the action was motivated by anti-racial sentiments, spread through the plant by the KKK and Detroit Axis agents.

The document containing the "proof" was composed of a transcript of a telephone conversation between a UAW representative and a caretaker at the Forest Social club said to be local headquarters for the Klan for the past three years. The caretaker, known as "Uncle Charlie," was engaged in a discussion of several Klan members who were doing "good work" at the Packard plant. Replies of the caretaker are said to have indicated he knew the agents were employed there and the nature of the "good work" they are doing.

News Columnist A Witness

The transcript was signed by the UAW representative and a columnist of a New York daily paper, who was listening in on another phone. Both stated that the name of Charles Spare, acknowledged figure in Klan activities during the organization's heydey, was brought into the conversation.

Dowling has maintained a silence as to the exact contents of the telephone conversation transcript. He did say, however, that they might provide a lead on which to hang an investigation of Thomas' charges that the Klan instigated the strike.

The prosecutor's office is also known to have spent considerable time during the week studying records of the Black Legion trials of six years ago, in an effort to become thoroughly familiar with KKK techniques.

June 19 1943

Meanwhile Packard officials admitted that they had dismissed 30 union workers reported to have instituted the three-day strike. The action was in accord with an ultimatum delivered by the United States Army following its investigation of the trouble.

Advised of the firings, Thomas told the international executive board of the CIO that C. E. Weiss, vice president in charge of personnel at the plant, should also be let out, because of his alleged anti-Negro attitude. The board adopted a resolution making the demand for the removal of Weiss.

Klan Charge

JUN 26 1943

TORONTO—Endorsement of the appeared executive board of the United Automobile Workers (CIO) was given and retaliation. It was Col. Strong who bility in the walkout have been for his discharged on orders of the Armv. situation. as in commending Col. George R. Strong of the Army Air Forces, inciting the strike. Approximately for his cooperation in the Packard 30 workers charged with responsi-

R. J. Thomas, president of the recent strike at the Packard Motor Car company, plant in Detroit, in which he accused the Ku Klux Klan and C. E. Weiss, plant personnel chief, with fomenting the walkout which caused a three-day work stoppage.

The board also joined with Thomas in commending Col. George R. Strong of the Army Air Forces, inciting the strike. Approximately for his cooperation in the Packard 30 workers charged with responsibility in the walkout have been situation. discharged on orders of the Armv.

It was also urged that a thorough investigation of the Klan activities in Detroit should be instituted at the earliest opportunity. Removal of Weiss was also recommended by the board on the theory that there

CIO Board Oks Thomas

Chicago Defender

Ku Kluxers Blamed For Packard Strike

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

JUN 19 1943

FLASH! DETROIT, Mich., June 10—All of the 25,000 strikers at the Packard plant have returned to work and production of war-vital materials has been resumed on a full scale. Twenty-seven of the strikers have been discharged for inciting the shutdown because of the upgrading of three colored workers.

By JOHN R. WILLIAMS
(Staff Correspondent)

DETROIT, Mich., June 10—Because it has been almost indubitably established that some fascist "fifth columnists" instigated the wildcat strike Thursday, June 3, at the Packard Motor Car company—from which approximately 25,000 walked out because three colored workers were upgraded—the backbone of the strike has been broken.

The sweeping change of sentiment was traced to the statements of President R. J. Thomas of the United Automobile Workers, CIO, who revealed that a secret investigation by his union uncovered the fact that the Ku Klux Klan and Axis agents conspired to bring about the strike.

MURRAY IN WASHINGTON

In the absence of President Philip Murray of the CIO—who was unavoidably detained in Washington by President Roosevelt—Thomas became principal speaker at the closing session of the emergency conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People here Sunday and, before a capacity crowd of more than 20,000 people, said, in part:

"Just before this meeting, I came into possession of absolute evidence that the strike at the Packard Motor car company was promoted, organized and carried out by agents of the Ku Klux Klan, aided and abetted by Axis agents. The so-called Negro problem is not a Negro problem at all. It is a democratic problem—at a time when the management of some defense plants in this area have turned the white worker and the Negro worker against each other. Every white worker and every Negro worker should have a general economic problem. The federal government should equalize the opportunities of all workers and all citizens. Today, we are fighting Hitlerism in Germany, in Italy, in Japan and, I regret to say it, but we are fighting the same enemy in this nation too.

UNION MAKES DEMAND

"Our union demands, today, that the federal government—with its Federal Bureau of Investigation—come to Detroit before it's too late to crush Hitlerism in Detroit. The UAW-CIO is going to fight for the rights of all its members, regardless of color. If the Ku Klux Klan and the rest of the night shirt boys want to fight the union on the issue, we are ready and willing to take them on."

Some of the strikers began cooling off Saturday morning and, by noon, approximately 25 per cent of them had returned to work. Following the new sentiment against the strike developed over the weekend—chiefly as a result of almost irrefutable evidence that Ku Klux Klan and Axis agents inspired the wildcat episode—it became a happy prospect that the remaining 75 per cent of the striking employes would resume their work.

Local sentiment is definitely against the strike. Every metropolitan daily newspaper reflects anti-strike sentiments and most of the dailies have carried strong editorial comment to this effect.

A special citizens' committee has demanded that all leaders of the strike be fired and that a federal investigation be opened for the purpose of rounding up alleged industrial "fifth columnists." Dismissal of C. P. Weiss, Packard industrial relations' officer, has also been urged on the score that he has consistently urged white workers to refuse to work with colored workers.

In one of his speeches during the NAACP Emergency conference, Walter White, executive secretary of the organization, blamed three Packard officials—Weiss, personnel manager; George Schwartz, general foreman and Robert Watts of the personnel division—for the striking of the thousands of white workers whose efforts turn out Rolls Royce airplanes. Mr. White styled the walkout "a boon to the Axis."

MURRAY RAPS STUBBORN PREJUDICE

Although he could not be present—for which reason Mr. Thomas substituted for him on behalf of the CIO—President Philip Murray, like President Roosevelt, Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes, and other high governmental officials in Washington, wired a special message to the emergency conference. The wire read, in part:

"Our men are dying now on the battlefields because we have persisted in following the path of hate. Today, there are men who would rather give up their sons than their prejudices. I recall a preacher who recently said to a group of friends, 'Your ancestors came to this country on the Mayflower; mine came on a slave ship, but, today, we are all here in the same boat'."

RESTORES JOBS AT PACKARD

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

JUN 19 1943

DETROIT, Mich., June 17—An undisclosed number of Packard Motor Car company employes, suspended following the recent strike over racial relations at the plant, were reinstated according to an announcement made by Col. George E. Strong, industrial relations officer for the central procurements district of the Army Air Forces.

Both white and Negro workers were among those permitted to return.

The military investigation into the stoppage that virtually halted production of aircraft and marine engines, Colonel Strong said, "indicates there are others involved, other than those who have been suspended."

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

JUN 19 1943

Packard Fires 27 for KKK-Inspired Strike

DETROIT.—(ANP)—Twenty-seven of the 25,000 white Packard motor men who struck when several colored men were placed in skilled jobs have been discharged.

It had been proved that the Ku Klux Klan was behind the strike.

Want Separate Toilets

White Women Strike In Detroit Factory

Courier

JUL 31 1943

Pittsburgh, Pa.

DETROIT, July 29—(ANP)—The entire night crew of white women workers at the Timpkin Gear and Axle company which walked out on strike last Tuesday in protest to using the same toilet facilities as Negro workers were warned by their superintendent to "either return to your jobs or get your pay and go home."

"NO SEGREGATION"

Because of the demand for more women workers, the ratio of Negro workers on the assembly lines at the plant has increased to over fifty per cent. Tuesday, white [illegible] petitioned the superintendent to build separate toilet facilities for the Negro women. The superintendent pointed out that the plant was doing business under contract and was forbidden to discriminate or segregate in any way against workers because of their race or color.

Refusing to accept this explanation, the women walked off the assembly line and issued a statement declaring that they would not return to work so long as they had to use the same toilets with Negro women, or use the same dressing rooms.

After remaining off the job for more than an hour, the white women decided to go back to work.

New Masses
New York, N. Y.

JUN 15 1943

TO NEW MASSES: May I, as a Detroit auto worker, tell you how much I appreciated Mr. Magil's series on my city and industry. The whole series was not only important to me because of the very able reporting and writing, but especially because of the penetrating analysis. The clear discussion of such problems as incentive pay, and the operation of labor-management committees helped me and some co-workers to see and understand things that in the past were muddled. And further, Mr. Magil's inside observations on such questions as the anti-Negro feeling that is being stirred up by the KKK have already been proved correct by the subsequent development in Packard. Frankly these Detroit articles have been a real contribution for us auto workers, and might I suggest that you let Mr. Magil cover other industries such as aviation or shipbuilding—it would, I am sure, help the fellows in those industries and prove of real interest to us in Detroit. More power to you guys on NEW MASSES for all that you are doing for victory.

JAMES GRANDEN.

Detroit.

PM
New York, N. Y.

JUN 8 1943

By Albert Deutsch:

KKK Strikes

Some Men Behind Packard 'Hate Strike' Revealed

DETROIT.—This reporter listened in on a telephone conversation here that definitely links Ku Klux Klan elements with the instigation of the wildcat "hate strike," ostensibly caused by the upgrading of three Negro workers, which tied up the big Packard Motor Car plant last week. Packard produces Rolls Royce aviation engines.

The conversation took place between an undercover investigator of anti-American activities in Detroit and the caretaker of the Forest Social Club, long suspected of being a blind for the local Ku Klux Klan. It implicates at least one known ringleader of the Packard strike and two KKK leaders. The names of these men, together with my transcript of the phone conversation, have been turned over to the FBI.

I was in the office of the investigator Friday, and was invited to listen in on a second receiver while he phoned Temple 1-5444, the number of the Forest Social Club. Here is part of my transcript, which formed part of the evidence on which R. J. Thomas, head of the UAW union, based his appeal for a thorough FBI inquiry:

Investigator: Hello, is this Uncle Charlie? (Phoned later, this man identified himself as J. L. Charles, caretaker of the Club.)

Charles: Yes.

Inv.: Big doings down at Packard, eh?

Charles: Terrible. They never should of let that black alligator bait in there.

'A White Man's Plant'

Inv.: Well, our boys are putting up a good fight.

C.: Yes, and they'll continue to fight. Did you hear about that colored feller named White (Walter White) calling a mass meeting? Equal rights! Equal rights, my eye. Packard is a white man's plant, and it's going to stay that way. And I hope it's the same in every plant.

Inv.: If it wasn't for our boys, they'd have these Negroes in every plant.

C.: Yes, our boys are doing all right.

Inv.: Where's Charlie Spare? Is he down at the plant? (Spare is the head of the Forest Social Club. When I called him later at his home, he readily admitted that he had been Grand Exalted Cyclops of the national KKK, and Grand Klailiff of the Michigan order, but claimed that the KKK was no longer active in Detroit. Last year the Detroit *News* referred to him as "Nightshirt Charlie."

More Ku Kluxers

C.: I can't say where Charlie is. It isn't my business to know. But I can tell you he's working hard. Fred's doing a good job there.

Inv.: Which Fred is that?

C.: Well, you know, Fred S——. He was here Tuesday night and told us the whole program at Packard. Fred's a righthand fighter, all right. (I checked on Fred S—— with officials of Packard Local 90, UAW. They identified him as a union member.)

Inv.: I guess Fred is doing a real job at Packard.

C.: You bet, and so is Harvey.

Inv.: Harvey H——?

C.: That's right. (Harvey H—— worked at the Packard plant until two or three years ago. The Civil Rights Federation of Detroit identifies him as an active Kluxer.)

Inv.: Well, I'd like to go down to Packard and help the boys out. Who should I ask for?

C.: Just ask for R——.

Inv.: But I don't know R—— well, and I don't want to take chances.

C.: Then ask for Fred. He's all right.

Negro And White Workers Strike In 2 War Plants

Informer
Houston, Texas
JUL 31 1943

DETROIT.—(ANP)—In the opinion of Michigan labor leaders, a recent strike staged by Negroes at the Campbell Wyant Cannon and Co., war plant in Muskegon, last week was a "slap in the face" to those ends aiming to create better race relations between Negro and white workers.

Protest White Steward

The strike was staged last Monday when Negro workers walked off their jobs in protest to working under a white steward. Between 80 and 90 Negroes employed in one department of the plant caused 200 men to remain idle Monday, and this number was increased to 900 Tuesday when 700 more were thrown out of work as a result of the walkout.

It was not learned whether the men had any other grievance other than that they did not want to work under the white steward. Settlement of the strike was announced late Tuesday as a detachment of state police, mobilized as a precaution, stood by at nearby Grand Haven.

WHITE WOMEN STRIKE OVER TOILET ISSUE

DETROIT.—(ANP) — The entire night crew of white women workers at the Tempkin Gear and Avle company which walked out on strike last Tuesday in protest to using the same toilet facilities as Negro workers were warned by their superintendent to "either return to your jobs or get your pay and go home."

JUL 31 1943

Forbidden to Discriminate

Because of the demand for more women workers, the ratio of Negro workers on the assembly lines at the plant has increased to over 50 per cent. Tuesday, white women petitioned the superintendent to build separate toilet facilities for the Negro women. The superintendent pointed out that the plant was doing business under contract and was forbidden to discriminate or segregate in any way against workers because of their race or color

Refusing to accept this explanation, the women walked off the assembly line and issued a statement declaring that they would not return to work so long as they had to use the same toilets with Negro women, or use the same dressing rooms.

Use Same or Quit

"You will either use the same facilities or find other jobs," the superintendent answered. "If there are those who don't want to work under these terms, they can go to the dressing rooms now, while the Negro women are not in them, change their clothes, stop by the office and get their pay. This company is not going to tolerate any hate strikes and you may as well know it now."

JUL 3 1943

After remaining off the job for more than an hour, the white women decided to go back to work. However, four of the women, believed to have been leaders of the hate strike, later quit their jobs. The Negro women remained on their jobs all during the disturbance.

Packard Workers Suspended As Army Investigates Strike

Washington D.C. Tribune

Army authorities were seeking this week the instigators of the strike at the Packard Motor Car Company, Detroit, Mich., over the assignment of three Negroes to work with whites on the assembly lines.

With production of aviation and marine engines completely paralyzed for four days last week, R. J. Thomas, president of the United Automobile Workers, declared that the strike was promoted by "agents of the Ku Klux Klan, acting for the enemy." The charge was made while Thomas was addressing the convention of the NAACP in Detroit last Sunday. He said he had conclusive evidence to support his contention, and that he was turning the evidence over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Mr. Thomas told the meeting that he had come into possession of "further and absolute evidence that the strike at Packard, one of the most shameful exhibitions of this war, was in fact actively supported and promoted, organized and carried out by agents of the Ku Klux Klan or its successor body in Detroit."

"This evidence," said Mr. Thomas, "together with that already in possession of the UAW-CIO, such as a formal invitation to Klansmen in Packard's, signed by the 'excelled-clycops' and by mandate of the 'imperial wizard'

Twenty-Seven Strikers Fired At Packard Plant

Informer

DETROIT.—(ANP)—According to latest accounts, 27 strikers have been discharged from the Packard plant when 25,000 workers stopped work because several Negroes were placed on skilled jobs in the plant. It was proved that an undercurrent of the Ku Klux Klan was working in the plant sabotaging war production on three different occasions when Negroes were upgraded.

JUN 26 1943

Army procurement officials and the UAW-CIO stepped into the picture and on the army recommendations the men were discharged. This move may have a great bearing on like situations, if the federal investigation into Klan activities is carried out as has been asked by R. J. Thomas, of the UAW.

JUN 19 1943

Striking Negroes Halt Operations At Detroit Plant

Detroit, Oct. 28. (AP)—A strike of 115 Negro employes on one of two export boxing assembly lines at the Dodge truck plant after a Negro woman was discharged this morning halted all overseas shipping operations at the plant, a Chrysler Corporation spokesman said today.

The spokesman said the strikers forced about 450 workers on two export lines to quit their jobs surrounding white workers and shouting, "everyone go home."

The discharged employe, the company statement said, had been absent without excuse or explanation for four days but returned this morning and refused an assignment to a different job at the same pay scale.

Klan-Axis Link Charged In Packard Hate Strike

Chicago Defender
(Special to The Defender)

DETROIT, Mich. — A link between Axis-inspired agents within the Packard Motor company organization and the Ku Klux Klan was responsible for the strike which closed the Packard plant here last week, R. J. Thomas, president of the United Automobile Workers, told a gathering of 20,000 persons at Olympia Stadium, Sunday.

Declaring that he is prepared to present evidence to the Federal Bureau of Investigation to substantiate his charges that the KKK has key figures in the Packard plant, Thomas promised to prove that the protest strikes against the upgrading of three Negro workers last Thursday "was actually planned and carried out by the Ku Klux Klan."

JUN 12 1943

"It is my intention to demand, as head of UAW, that the government move forthwith to determine whether there is a connection between these Ku Klux Klan elements within the Packard plant and Detroit agents of the Axis."

The day previous Thomas had demanded the speedy dismissal of C. E. Weiss, vice president of the company, in charge of personnel, and of George Schwartz, general foreman, and Herbert Watts, also employed in the personnel division. He based his demand on the assertion that these three had persuaded white employes to refuse to work beside colored men on the machines.

Thomas' charges were a spectacular climax to a week-end of fast and dramatic action. Particularly impressive were the happenings of Friday when a white sailor and union officials engaged in verbal sparring with a large crowd of strikers gathered in front of the Grand avenue gates of the plant.

The sailor, Paul Young, a first class petty officer, made a gallant plea to the men but to no avail. Mounting the sound truck, which union officials were using to address the men, the sailor said:

"I'm just a sailor, just John Gob," he began, "and there's only one thing I want to say.

"The only ones you will hurt by your striking are my buddies. You won't hurt these people you are trying to condemn as your social inequals here. You'll just ruin the

WHITE WORKERS HATE STRIKERS TOLD TO WORK OR QUIT

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

DETROIT. — The entire night crew of white women workers at the Tempkin Gear and Axle company which walked out on strike last Tuesday in protest to using the same toilet facilities as Negro workers were warned by their superintendent to "either return to your jobs or get your pay and go home."

Because of the demand for more women workers, the ratio of Negro workers on the assembly lines at the plant has increased to over 50 per cent. Tuesday, white women petitioned the superintendent to build separate toilt facilities for the Negro women. The superintendent pointed out that the plant was doing business under contract and was forbidden to discriminate or segregate in any way against workers because of their race or color.

AUG 4 1943

Refusing to accept this explanation, the women walked off the assembly line nad issued a statement declaring that they would not return to work so long as they had to use the same toilets with Negro women, or use the same dressing rooms.

"You will either use the same facilities or find other jobs," the superintendent answered. "If there are those who don't want to work under those terms, they can go to the dressing rooms now, while the Negro women are not in them, change their clothes stop by the office and get their pay. This company is not going to tolerate any hate strikes and you may as well know it now."

AUG 4 1943

After remaining off the job for more than an hour, the white women decided to go back to work. However, four of the women believed to have been leaders of the hate strike, later quit their jobs. The Negro women remained on their jobs all during the disturbance.

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

STRIKES ARE SABOTAGE

Packard Motor Car workers have ceased a serious stoppage in war production. The trouble arises over the fact that white workers object to the employment and upgrading of Negro labor.

But the Packard strike is more so-called secondary. The president ought to speak out against this type of sabotage for that is exactly what strikes are at this stage of the war.

This spectacle and the coal strike are certainly placing the defense effort in a terrible spot for in each instance the strikers are telling the government that they come first in their demands—all other things are dealt with minority groups.

The Axis powers certainly have the laugh on us for practicing race hatred against Negroes and at the same time trying to tell them how to

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

35i-1943
Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Workers Go Back To Work After Strike

22,500 Whites Walked Out When Negroes Were Upgraded at Packard

DETROIT—Racial feeling reached fever heat here last week following the wildcat strike of 22,500 white war workers at the Packard Motor Co., because they refused to work on assembly lines with Negroes. United Auto Workers (CIO) officials feared a race riot would break out in the country's number one war industry city at any moment. Detroit manufactures one-sixth of the nation's total output of war material.

Although the workers straggled back to work after a 5-day walkout, responsible citizens here openly predict that other more serious strikes and racial trouble will occur in the immediate future unless something drastic is done to curb the white southern agitators who have made a seething center of racial bigotry and prejudice out of this northern industrial center. It is estimated that there are close to 300,000 white southerners here. Many of them are members of the notorious Ku Klux Klan, which flourishes here as much as it does in any southern city.

U. S. Also Blamed

Blame for the Packard strike is leveled directly and equally at the Packard Company, the U. S. Government and the UAW. C. E. Weiss, vice president of the Packard Co., in charge of personnel, and two other company officials openly goaded the white workers not to work with Negroes on May 30. Weiss told the white workers they didn't have to work with Negroes, despite what their union officials told them. R. J. Thomas, UAW president, told the workers at Packard's at a special meeting on May 30, that they would have to work with the Negroes, because it was the union's and the Government's policies that there must be no discrimination in war jobs.

Nevertheless, the UAW, which has gone down the line officially in upholding no discrimination, has failed to ferret out white agitators in the union and throw them out of it, despite proof of charges brought against them that they were agitators. These trouble-makers, practically all of whom are southerners, have been permitted to stir up racial strife ever since the war started.

Moreover, the Government, has failed to investigate the trouble-makers who have often tied up war production for days at a time. Although some companies have put their feet down on anyone who attempted to cause racial dissension on the job, some companies have winked at the Ku Kluxers and others hell-bent to wreck peaceful labor conditions. The Packard Co. is among the most notorious in this regard.

Because of the failure of the Government, the companies and the UAW to take definite action against the agitators, thousands of colored workers have been prevented from being upgraded to better jobs. This, in spite of a chronic shortage of skilled workers in the city.

Trouble started at the Packard Co. a few days before Decoration Day when three Negro workers were upgraded to work on the final assembly line. (Packard makes Rolls Royce motors for the air corps.) When the three men reported to work, the white workers on the line struck. The colored men were immediately demoted to their old jobs.

To the surprise of the company and the UAW, however, all Negro workers in the plant—2,500—immediately walked out in protest against the failure of the company and the union to go through with upgrading the three Negro workers. UAW officials finally prevailed upon the Negro strikers to return to their jobs, promising them that the three upgraded men would be kept on the assembly line, that there would be no discrimination. It was because the Negro workers walked out that UAW President Thomas called all workers of Packard Local 190 together on May 30 and told them that the three upgraded men would keep their new jobs. Mr. Thomas roundly denounced the white strikers and racial discrimination.

When the workers—white and Negro—filed into the plant after the May 30 meeting, however, Mr. Weiss told some of the white ones they didn't have to work with Negroes if they didn't want to. This precipitated the walkout of all white workers. Despite exhortations by union and Government officials, the workers refused to go back to their jobs until late last Saturday when some of them returned.

Racial tension was high round the gates of the Packard plant all during the wildcat strike. The white strikers stood round the gates urging other whites not to work. They declared that "this thing must be thrashed out now." They said, "the Government segregates Negroes in the armed forces, why should we have to work with them if we don't want to?" They even booed a white sailor and soldier who climbed up on a sound truck and urged the strikers to return to work. The sailor told the strikers that he had eaten, slept and fought with Negroes in this war, that he was proud of it.

2500 Quit In Packard

Michigan

Race Strike

DETROIT — (ANP) — Labor trouble at the Packard motor plant here took on a new slant Wednesday when an all-Negro strike occurred.

Nearly 2,500 Negro workers of CIO United Auto Workers Local 190 walked out of the plant when a foreman discharged three Negro machinists because white employes threatened to strike in protest.

After a walkout, the workers met at a nearby hall where a white speaker told them not to blame it on the company. "We have dirt in our union which needs to be cleaned out," he declared. Other speakers said the Ku Klux Klan was back of it all.

Norman Matthews, president of Packard Local 190, advised the workers to return to work immediately. "We made a pledge to the government," he said, "that our union would not strike, and because of this we have been unable to force the company to keep its promises." He declared that the company would be indicted when the FEPC hearings are held here June 27 and 28.

Eddie Tolan, a Packard employe, introduced a resolution to the effect that the Negro is 100 per cent behind the war effort and indicated that the men of Local 190 had struck in order to call attention to unjust conditions and discrimination.

The strikers voted to return to work immediately, on condition that the three Negro men be replaced on their machines to which they had been upgraded.

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

Hate Strikes Start Trouble

Packard Motors Only Has Been Found To Produce More Difficulties

DETROIT, Mich.—Topped only by the Packard Motor plant where hate strikes the past year were a dime a dozen, the local plant of the United States Rubber Company has become the No. 2 hot-bed for Ku Klux Klanism, and a haven for other subversive elements in Detroit. Because officials of the United Rubber Workers of America (Local 101) read the riot act and settled several walkouts resulting from the hiring or upgrading of Negro workers, it would appear that the Fascist element at U. S. Rubber has been licked, but such is far from the truth.

Last Summer, following a walkout at the plant which was settled when workers were ordered to work with Negroes or face discharge and possible induction into the army, there began a quiet movement to force, through union vote, the subordination of Negro workers to menial jobs and, at the same time, oust them from whatever positions they held in the local union. This move was started when Parker Sage, indicted two years ago for conspiracy in the Sojourner Truth riot, (but never prosecuted), began to organize the "American Party" at the plant. The "American Party" has since become the subversive arm of Local 101 and every move it has made has been against Negroes and liberals.

Minimized Influence

When Sage first began to organize this "American Party" Negroes minimized its influence, but its effectiveness was felt in the election of delegates to the United Rubber Workers convention at Toronto, for not only did it prevent the election of a Negro delegate, but fought down every resolution calling for action on race riots and hate strikes and prevented the adoption of a single win-the-war resolution by the Local 101 delegation. To offset its own Fascist leanings, the "American Party" resorted to the wornout game of red baiting and even went so far as to race-bait liberals who fought for a Negro delegate. This was the first year that the local failed to send a Negro delegate to the convention, and also the first year the Local 101 delegation failed to submit resolutions condemning discrimination, hate strikes and other subversive activity.

Loses by Narrow Margin

There is a bit of irony in this failure to send a Negro delegate to the convention, for Bob King, trustee of Local 101, lost the election by three votes and there are 300 Negro women working at the plant who refuse to take any part in union activity.

Note: Parker Sage does not work at the U. S. Rubebr plant. King has exposed his activity to union leaders and management but no attempts have been made to keep him out of the plant where he is rapidly perfecting another wing of the Ku Klux Klan. Sage's man at the plant is Geo[illegible]ke who not only is said to spend time trying to have all Negroes shifted into one department, but also has been charged with working a dollar-a-head racket on white workers—forcing each white worker in Sage's gang to pay over a dollar to finance the movement against Negroes.

IWO to Honor Negro Pilots

Daily Worker
New York. N. Y.

DETROIT, Nov. 7.—Negro soldiers and war workers will be guests of honor at a gala unity program and ball given by the International Workers Order Saturday evening, Nov. 13, at the Mirror Ballroom, 2940 Woodward Ave.

The program on Nov.13 is being presented as a public tribute to the contributions of the Negro people on the battle and the production fronts in the war against fascism. Captain Charles B. Hall, first Negro pilot to bring down a Nazi plane in action over Sicily, with 25 other members of the 99th Pursuit Squadron recently decorated by the United States Army for their exploits in North Africa, are to be honored in absentio.

Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., former Commander of the 99th and now in charge of the 332nd Fighter Group in training at Selfridge Field, has designated a special services officer to address the gathering and give a first-hand account of the 99th Pursuit Squadron's combat against the enemy.

Negro war workers from Detroit's war plants, and soldiers of the 332nd Fighter Group from Selfridge Field, will be guests of honor.

HATE STRIKES COST THREE MILLION HOURS

Defender
Chicago. Ill

Labor Department Data Shows Loss To Nation In Walkouts

DETROIT, Mich.—Strikes in this area to prevent employment and upgrading of Negro workers have cost the war effort nearly three million man hours, the U. S. Department of Labor revealed this week.

In a report, supplied at the request of the NAACP, the Department of Labor stated that between the three-month period of March 1 through May 31, 101,935 man days of work in U. S. war plants had been lost to the enemy because of racial bigotry. The Department of Labor lists protests against the upgrading of Negro workers as the chief reason for these strikes.

Other reasons recorded are: hiring of colored workers and demand for separate sanitary facilities; placing of Negroes in production department; hiring of Negro plant guards; and refusal to work with Negro toolmakers.

The War Production Board estimates that an additional one million man-hours were lost by the Detroit riot.

In another [illegible] page during the same period at the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding company in Mobile, 23,167 man days or 503,208 man hours were lost in a strike and riot

Tempkin Gear and Axle company in Detroit, walked out on strike last Tuesday in protest to the Negro women. The superintendent pointed out that the plant was facilities or find other jobs," the superintendent answered. "If there by doing business under contract and was forbidden to discriminate or are those who don't want to work using the same toilet facilities for Negro workers, the superintendent to get your jobs or get to your jobs or get out and go home."

Refusing to accept this explanation for more Negro women are not in the ratio of Negro workers, the women walked off the assembly line and issued a statement declaring that they would not re-segregate in any way against work-under those terms, they can go to either re-segregate in any way against work-under those terms, they can go to their own jobs because of their race or color. the dressing rooms while the plant has increased to over 50 turn to work so long as they had to hate strikes and you may as well

Defender
Chicago, Ill

War Plant Squelches Hate Strike By White Women

DETROIT, Mich.—(ANP)—The entire night crew of white women workers at the

know it now."

After remaining off the job for more than an hour, the white women decided to go back to work. However, four of the women believed to have been leaders of the hate strike, later quit their jobs. The Negro women remained on their jobs all during the disturbance.

JUL 31 1942

Mississippi Court Finds White Guilty Of Peonage

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

MERIDIAN, Miss.—A federal court here Tuesday found Donald Castle, white Toomsuba sawmill operator, guilty of peonage.

The charge against Castle was the result of an investigation by FBI agents. Castle was charged with keeping Rossy Wyse, Lauderdale county Negro, in a "virtual state of slavery."

The declaration filed in court stated that Castle had tied Wyse to a bed at night with a log chain about his neck and that the man was forced to perform labor involuntarily in repayment of a debt due Castle.

Action of Castle in pleading guilty prevented a trial which would have been conducted by United States District Attorney Toxey Hall and his assistant, Stewart Broom, without assistance from the civil liberties section of the Department of Justice.

Seen As Test Case

Frank Coleman, an assistant attorney general attached to the civil liberties section, presented the evidence to the grand jury which returned the indictment against Castle but the trial was left in the hands of local authorities. As such it was regarded as a test case which might have a bearing on other civil liberties prosecutions pending in various parts of the South.

Evidence against Castle was that he took Wyse who had once worked for him from a rival sawmill at the point of a pistol, beat him and then chained him to a bed. Maximum penalty on each of the two counts in the indictment is five years imprisonment and a fine of $5000.

Neither the government or attorneys or defense counsel made any statement to the court when Castle entered his plea. The entire procedure took less than a minute.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Peonage Charge Filed In Miss.

JACKSON, Miss.—(ANP)—Charges of peonage have been brought against Donald Castle, a white Lauderdale county sawmill operator who is said to have carried away Rossy Wyse with the intent that he be held as a slave involuntarily according to U. S. Atty. Texey Hall. The indictment also charges that Castle confined and imprisoned Wyse by shackling him to a bed with a log-chain about his neck.

He will be tried in a Meridian federal court this week under Judge Sidney C. Mize.

Age
New York, N. Y.

Miss. Sawmill Owner Pleads Guilty To Peonage Indictment

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Department of Justice announced this week that Donald Castle, sawmill operator of Lauderdale County, Miss., pleaded guilty on September 21 to a peonage indictments involving Rossy Wyse, a Negro worker.

Arraigned before Federal Judge Sidney C. Mize, at Meridian, Miss., and prosecuted by United States Attorney Toxey Hall, Castle admitted three violations of the Civil Rights Statutes in shipping and holding Wyse in peonage at Castle's sawmill in December, 1942. Judge Mize accepted the guilty plea and announced that Castle will be sentenced at a later date.

The indictment, in three counts, was returned by a Federal Grand Jury at Meridian, on March 16, 1943, following an F.B.I. investigation of a complaint filed by a State official that Castle had seized Wyse from a farm where he was employed, "shackled him to a bed with a log chain about his neck," and forced him to work against his will.

The three counts of the indictment charged that Castle carried Wyse away with the intent he be held as a slave and caused to be held as a slave in violation of Section 443, Title 18, U.S.C. and that Castle held Wyse in a state of peonage, in violation of Section 444, Title 18, U.S.C. Each count of the indictment is punishable by a maximum sentence of five years.

Assistant U. S. Attorney Stewart C. Brown assisted Mr. Hall in the prosecution of the case.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y

Chains Man To Bed; FBI Stops Abuse

Peonage Case Startling; Employer Put Long Chain On Worker To "Keep Him"

WASHINGTON—The Department of Justice announced this week that Donald Castle, a sawmill operator in Lauderdale County, Miss., pleaded guilty on September 21 to a peonage indictment involving Rossy Wyse.

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The Indictment

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The three counts of the indictment charged that Castle carried Wyse away with the intent that he be held as a slave and caused him to be held as a slave in violation of Section 443, Title 18, U. S. C. Each count of the indictment is punishable by a maximum sentence of five years.

Assistant U. S. Attorney Stewart C. Brown assisted Mr. Hall in the prosecution of the case.

Tribune
Savannah, Ga.

Man Faces Charge of Peonage

SEP 23 1943

Chained Worker To Log To Keep Him On Premises

Jackson, Miss, Sept. 17 (ANP)—Charges of peonage have been brought against Donald Castle a white Lauderdale county sawmill operator who is said to have unlawfully, wilfully, knowingly and feloniously carried away Rossy Wyse with the intent that he be held as a slave with the purpose of compelling him by threats, intimidation, whipping and beating to work and labor involuntarily and against his will, according to U. S. Atty. Texey Hall.

The indictment also charges that Castle confined and imprisoned Wyse by shackling him to a bed with a log-chain about his neck.

He will be tried in a Meridian federal court this week under Judge Sidney C. Mize.

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Peonage Violator Fined $500

OCT 9 1943

MERIDIAN, Miss., (ANP)—Donald Castle, of Landerdale county, a sawmill operator, was fined $500 in federal court here last week upon his conviction on peonage charges.

Judge Sidney Mize imposed sentence after the mill operator had pleaded guilty. The court suspended a two year jail term and placed Castle on two years' probation.

Mississippi

Colored Workers Strike Over White Man In Crew

Philadelphia, Pa. Tribune

MAY 8 1943

GREENVILLE, Miss. (ANP)—Forty-six workmen of the Chicago Mill and Lumber company turned the national labor picture around last week and when they walked out in protest against retention of a white workman on the job with them.

MAY 8 1943

It was not, however, a strike arising from the employment of the man. Douglas Jackson, president of the local union of Carpenters and Joiners explained that the crisis arose when a colored man and a white man became engaged in a fight on the job. "The Negro," he said, "was fired."

He said the work stoppage was caused by the determination of the men to make the company live up to its rules that any man engaging in a fight is to be discharged. They pointed out that the colored man was fired, but the white man was allowed to remain on the job.

Officials of the company, which is engaged in war production work, refused to comment.

St. Louis, June 3—(INS)—More than 2,000 Negro employes at the St. Louis ordnance plant were on strike today.

Officials declared the men walked out last night from one unit at the plant, refusing to work under the supervision of white foremen.

Negro employes, plant officials said, were selected recently for training as supervisors to replace the white foremen.

News
Birmingham, Ala

2,500 Negroes Strike In St. Louis Factory; Want Own Foremen

ST. LOUIS —(AP)— Approximately 2,500 Negro employes at one of eight production units of the St. Louis Ordnance Plant struck Thursday, refusing to work under white foremen, Julian Kirk, public relations director for the United States Cartridge Company, said.

White foremen have supervised work in the plant since its formation in July, 1942, but Negro employes were selected this month for training as supervisors to replace them, Kirk explained.

The Negro workmen evidently are not organized, he said, and have selected no spokesman. "There is no one you can talk to. They just quit work and said they wouldn't continue under white foremen."

Two shifts have quit and Kirk said he did not know whether a third shift, due to report at 8 a.m., would work.

One shift began work at 4 p.m. Wednesday, but left the job at 6:30. The midnight shift reported, but did not want to work, Kirk said, and production in the unit was not resumed.

The unit is the only one in the United States employing Negro skilled and semi-skilled workers exclusively, he explained. The plant is owned by the government and operated by the cartridge company.

The other seven units of the plant are not affected.

Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

FOLLOWING PATTERNS

We are not surprised that some three thousand Negro workers at the Small Arms Plant in St. Louis participated in a strike last week.

Just about four weks ago, the white women in a section of the plant went on a strike because the management, in order to keep the production lines open to the best advantage of all concerned, placed a few Negro truckers in the white section, and of course, the management yielded to the strikers' demands.

Thus, following the pattern laid down by the whites, the Negroes went on strike when a white foreman, whom they claim was unqualified, was put over them. These workers had learned the lesson that a strike means getting what you want in a war production plant.

Of course, there are other factors which played some part in the strike, but for the most part it was a sort of retaliation strike. In the final analysis as to whether these workers lost or gained anything is still a debatable question, as their action in this case is new in the field of labor, and time alone will tell.

However, a statment issued by the March on Washington Committee, signed by A. D. Morsell, David M. Grant and Leyton Weston, characterized the walkout as "unwise, ill-timed, hasty and without outside support."

Chicago Ill. Defender

'MAN BITES DOG' STRIKE ENDED IN ST. LOUIS

3600 Negroes Walk Out In Protest Against Hiring Of White Foreman

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—The "suspended in air" FEPC—which has a chairman but as yet no committee—was faced with a "man bites dog" case last week when 3600 Negroes of the United States Cartridge company, in St. Louis, went on strike because of the appointment of a white foreman to supervise them.

The case presented a reverse of the usual discrimination problem faced by the FEPC, and of the current wave of cases in which white workers have been striking because of hiring or upgrading of Negroes to skilled jobs.

FEPC did not have to step into the case when a settlement was arranged by the regional office of the War Manpower commission and Army officials.

The trouble started when the company employed a new, white foreman in the all-colored unit of the plant. Although white foremen have been supervising the work of the Negroes since July, 1942, when the Negro unit was established, the workers maintained that the company had fallen down on its promise to replace them with Negro foremen. The situation exploded when a new, white foreman was brought in.

Return to Work

The men have returned to work, according to a report by the War Manpower commission representative to the FEPC. It is also reported that the company is going to replace the white foremen with Negroes. There are some Negroes in training as supervisors already, it there was no picketing. The company spokesman said the Negro unit was "the only one of its kind in the entire war program, and that skilled and semi-skilled Negro workers are employed in all capacities except those of a supervisory nature.

The United States Cartridge company plant is owned by the government and is operated by the cartridge company. It has eight units, one of which, except for the foreman, employs Negro skilled and semi-skilled workers exclusively.

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

3,700 NEGROES QUIT ARMS PLANT

ST. LOUIS. — Approximately 3,700 Negro employes of the St. Louis Ordnance Plant, refusing to continue work under white foremen, remained away from their jobs on June 3.

A company spokesman for the United States Cartridge Company said the Negroes were employed in three shifts at one of the plant's production units.

White foremen have supervised work in the unit since its formation in July, 1942, but Negro employes were selected this month for training as supervisors to replace them, the company spokesman explained.

The Negro workmen evidently are not organized and have selected no spokesman.

"There is no one to talk to," the company spokesman said. "They just quit work and said they wouldn't continue under white foremen."

The unit is the only one in the United States employing Negro skilled and semi-skilled workers exclusively. The plant is owned by the government and operated by the cartridge company.

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

Strikers Return To Ordnance Jobs

ST. LOUIS, Mo., June 10—About 18 hours after they refused to work Thursday, June 3, because a white foreman was brought in to fill a vacancy they felt should have been filled by promotion of a Negro—3,600 colored men and women employed on three shifts at the St. Louis Ordnance plant returned to their jobs. Their resumption of work followed an agreement by representatives of the workers and executives of the United States Cartridge company, operators of the plant, to arbitrate the dispute.

The ordnance firm, through its spokesman, indicated it understood the workers' complaint concerned all white foremen and did not involve a particular event, as Otto Maschoff, president of the "Small Arms" local of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, CIO, stated. The company further stated that, although white foremen had been used in the unit manned by Negroes since its opening last July, the plan is to train Negro foremen to replace the white foremen. The plan, it was admitted, has not as yet been put into effect but the first Negroes were selected for training this month.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

3,600 Return To Work After Strike

ST LOUIS—(A N P)—The 1,200 Negro day employes at the St. Louis Ordnance plant, who refused to work last week because a white foreman was given a job they felt should have been filled by promotion of a Negro worker, returned to work after a one day strike.

According to a spokesman, the 2,400 workers on the other two shifts, who refused to work on the same day, were expected to report also, since an agreement to arbitrate the dispute had been reached by representatives of the workers and executives of the U. S. Cartridge Company.

The personnel of the third shift walked off the job when they found on reporting at 4 p. m., that the white foreman had been brought in, according to Otto Maschoff, president of the "small arms" local of the CIO United Electrical, Radio and Machine workers, collective bargaining agent for the workers.

Police reported no disturbance;

Clyde Huffstutler, district representative of the United Steelworkers (CIO) said the strike was presented to the company latorized by the union but thater.

a redress of grievances. He added mittee to work with the union for a two day walkout over failure of the company to hire after a tional Negro workers and upgrade a fair number of those additiona already employed.

WORKERS RETURN TO WORK AFTER 'JOB EQUALITY' STRIKE

Atlanta, Georgia Daily World

St. Louis, (ANP) — More than 400 foundry laborers returned to their jobs at the Madison armor plant of the General Steel Castings corporation here last week after

36 per cent of 1,450 employes said Karl Howard, manager of the foundry. He said it was the third time in recent weeks that walk-outs have occurred in the plant although the men reported for work after one day absences.

AUG 25 1943

National Maritime Union

Seamen Invite FDR to Maritime Convention

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.



JUL 2 1943

Five seamen who have been victims of Nazi torpedoes called on President Roosevelt to invite him to speak at the National Maritime Union convention which opens in New York City on July 6. Standing around the President's memento-cluttered desk are (left to right): Admiral Emory S. Land, chairman of the U. S. Maritime Commission; Wesley Hersey; Thomas Fitzsimmons; Edwin Beck; Joseph Curran, union head; Charles Williams; Hoyt Haddock, and Captain Edward McCauley. (Story on Page 5)

JUL 2 1943

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

NMU to Meet Here July 7th

JUL 2 1943

White and Negro seamen from sub-infested seas are gathering in New York to attend the first war-time convention of the National Maritime Union, which opens in Manhattan Center next Tuesday, July 6.

The delegates, representing the union's 50,000 members, who are delivering cargoes to every battle-front of the world, are expected to renew the NMU's pledge of no-strikes-in-wartime.

That pledge has been faithfully kept. No war-cargo ship has been delayed a single minute by any NMU strike.

The convention is also expected to denounce the small group of strike provocateurs within the labor movement, who have been playing Hitler's game.

SOME ARE GONE

Some delegates, who took part in the union's last convention at Cleveland in 1941, will not be in the hall, when President Joseph Curran brings his gavel down at 10 A.M. Tuesday.

They are among the thousands of seamen, who gave their lives delivering the goods.

Many of the delegates are themselves survivors of torpedo attacks.

JUL 2 1943

Plans for improving shipping efficiency and further stepping up the union's great war service will be discussed at the convention.

Curran and Vice President Frederick N. Myers, Howard McKenzie and Jack Lawrenson will report on the union's progress and problems. Important reports will also be made by Secretary Ferdinand C. Smith, Negro leader, who has taken a prominent part in labor's counter-attack against the "race-rioting" fifth columnists, and by M. Hedley Stone, the union's treasurer.

OPEN TO PUBLIC

Representatives from foreign seamen's unions will help give a United Nations character to the convention sessions, which are all open to the public.

JUL 2 1943

Speakers include Vice Admiral Russell R. Waesche, Commandant, the U. S. Coast Guard; Dr. Wei Tao-Ming, Chinese Ambassador to the United States; Michael J. Quill, international president, the Transport Workers Union; Louis Weinstock, secretary - treasurer, AFL Painters District Council, No. 9; Captain Edward Macauley, deputy administrator, the War Shipping Administration and others.

Welcome NMU

JUL 2 1943

GOTHAM CITY'S warmest welcome goes today to the heroes of the sea who gather here for the convention of the CIO's National Maritime Union. Indeed, all Americans—all but those who are blinded by prejudice or hatred of unions—take pride in the NMU.

The NMU is unmatched in its patriotic devotion to the war effort. Its sacrifice of life is unexcelled even by the armed services. The heroism of its members has been carried to the full measure and in the tradition of the hardiest of mariners. This is the union that meets to map a course that will carry it to still greater heights and glory.

A militant progressively-led union, it has lived under attack from the day it was born. In wartime years it has kept 'em sailing with eyes pealed not only for Axis torpeodes but also for the poison darts from the Peglers and for the sewer rats in the hire of union-busters.

Not once have the NMU members faltered in their duty to America and the United Nations under fire. They have delivered and unloaded at Guadalcanal and other Pacific outposts, they landed—men and equipment—for that first North Africa landing; they cut through the sub-infested route to Murmansk. They'll go anywhere Uncle Sam wants them to go.

JUL 6 1943

They only ask that in this people's war, that home-front wreckers and all variety of appeasers be mercilessly fought and rooted out.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

It is just because the NMU was born of the fighting tradition of U. S. seamen and has always been a militant, democratically-led union, that its wartime role is so exemplary today. We well remember how seamen fought to win union recognition and a decent wage. They were always in good practice when it came to going out on strike. Yet not a single NMU vessel has seen a strike in this war. All this shows that the seamen know the score. They have transformed their militancy into a weapon against Hitler. They are none the worse off for it. In fact, live union leadership has enabled them to greatly improve their working and living standards.

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Here is something for coal miners and others who have been bitten by the Lewis bug, to notice. The NMU is living proof that a union that puts victory above everything is able to give the best protection to its members. The path of Lewis had led to the loss of a mountain of war supplies, to a serious blow at morale, to anti-labor legislation and the coal miners have got nothing but much public indignation.

Coming at this hour when reaction seeks to fan race hatred to a white heat, the convention will underscore the union's historic contribution in the war against "aryanism." The hard battle that led to the appointment of its Negro member, Hugh Mulzac, to the captaincy of the S. S. Booker T. Washington, is one of the achievements

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of the union's fight along the entire front.

The NMU has a distinguisher record of anti-discrimination from every important issue union that inspired the North Atlantic." up their hats and its members beoes, admire courage, recognize true patoming contempt for back sniping of a

cheer for the NMU and its

Americans love heroes, sacrifice, recognition of the union's last convention and have a burning contempt for the cowardly behind-the-back sniping of a native Pegler.

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This war that is written in golden letters—and that chapter is still not finished.

How to Fight Racial Discrimination

SIR: The experience of the National Maritime Union, a CIO affiliate, in combating racial discrimination in practice as well as in theory may be of interest in view of the recent race riots throughout the country.

We are guided by two maxims. One is that "all men are created equal." The other is that "Labor with a white skin can never be free while Labor with a black skin is branded."

We learned the truth of these maxims on the picket line when we were carrying on the struggle to organize. We have learned it over and over again.

The contribution to our war effort of our Negro seamen is so outstanding that it bears repetition. They have gone to sea in spite of countless dangers, and after being torpedoed once, twice and as many as six times, they have again returned to their vessels to continue the fight against fascism. They are brave fighters for democracy. They are good shipmates. They are good union men.

Of course, we have some people within our organization who do not like Negroes. In a union of 50,000 members, there are bound to be some individuals who do not like Jews, Catholics, Protestants, white men, black men or the Brooklyn Dodgers. But we in the NMU do not accept the presence of these minority-haters blandly. We try to educate them. We do this through our union meetings, through our union paper, through pamphlets issued by the union, through books and periodicals published by outside publishers.

It is an intensive campaign. And at the same time that we educate our own members, we also perform the far more difficult task of educating the shipowners to recognize the evils of racial discrimination.

The fruits of our policies can best be cited by two instances. One is the successful voyages of the Booker T. Washington commanded by its very capable skipper, Hugh N. Mulzac, the first Negro captain in the American merchant marine. The other is the recent citation of the National Maritime Union by the Schomburg collection of Negro literature of the New York Public Library, which listed our union as one of the six groups chosen in a nationwide poll to determine who had done most for the improvement of race relations "in terms of real democracy."

Negroes and whites can work together, live together, sleep in the same room. We know what we're talking about. We've tried it. It works.

JOSEPH CURRAN, President,
New York City National Maritime Union of America

New Republic
New York, N. Y.

JUL 12 1943

JUL 12 1943

JUL 12 1943

'Probe Home Front Wreckers' --- NMU

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y. George Morris

The men who keep 'em sailing yesterday demanded that while they are out on the high seas delivering arms for the anti-Axis fronts, Hitler's agents in America should be "weeded out and thrown into jail."

This demand was vigorously voiced in a resolution unanimously adopted at the convention of the National Maritime Union after many delegates had spoken. Some speakers went as far as to demand a death sentence for inciters of race violence.

"There is no place in America for those who want to do business with Hitler and the Mikado," said the resolution. "While we are executing our responsibilities to the war effort on the high seas, we expect that these Axis agents will be weeded out and thrown into jail. No more stabs in the back from Hitler's agents."

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NAME NAMES

The resolution calling upon the President to "guarantee the success of our effort and sacrifices" demanded that he order an investigation of the enemies of the national welfare, among them "the National Association of Manufacturers, in big business; Wheeler, Nye, Connally, Dies, Fish, Smith in Congress; Hearst, Patterson, McCormick and Howard in the press; Gerald L. K. Smith, Father Coughlin and all elements in the Christian Front and Ku Klux Klan."

The resolution noted that the home-front wreckers have had some success in recent weeks with strikes, race violence and legislation to hamstring the President's anti-inflation program. This campaign was launched just as the "zero hour" neared for Hitler, the convention declared.

"To defeat the enemy we must know his face and understand his tactics," said the resolution. "Hitler's agents have found their way into the high places of our national life—big business, Congress, press, radio. They are working frantically to confuse and divide the people, throw the nation into chaos and halt production. Anti-Semitism, red-baiting, union-busting, anti-Negro provocations are the methods through hich they attempt to pit labor against capital, the farmer against labor, one national group against the other."

The resolution was introduced with a speech by Vice-President Jack Lawrenson who said:

"We'll fight fascism wherever we find it. We'll give a lead to the rest of the country in that fight. We will tolerate no division of any kind in this war."

Fascism is not a foreign product, Lawrenson added, citing American manifestations. He recalled Hitler's "Mein Kampf" predictions that America would be the easiest country to divide.

A two-year record of growth and unsurpassed war service to the country was yesterday pictured to delegates in a hundred-page report of officers submitted by President Joseph Curran.

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COMMEMORATE DEAD

The convention, now in its second day, meets in the very same hall where the NMU was born six years ago.

Hundreds of the union's founders were absent, however, having gone down to enemy torpedoes. Upon Curran's call the convention stood in silence to commemorate them.

This was also the occasion for dedicating a memorial book. In its parchment pages will be embossed the names of those who already made the supreme sacrifice and those who may follow. The NMU accounts for the bulk of some 5,000 on the merchant marine casualty list.

The "need for hastening the end of the war by opening a land offensive in Western Europe," the report declared, is "the most important issue affecting our people."

Opposition to a second front was charged by the NMU to "defeatist and appeaser forces who saddened by the thought of Nazi defeat, seek to delay and obstruct the hastening of this offensive."

"We must not let it happen," declares the report.

"It is obvious that there is no easy path or short cut to victory. To win this war we must be willing to lose lives. Our members have lost their lives."

The NMU recalled its pioneer role in fighting for a second front.

"Today, we again reaffirm our support to President Roosevelt's program for an all-out European offensive against the Axis," the officers continue.

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LEWIS DENOUNCED

John L. Lewis is denounced in several parts of the report. His provocation of the Smith-Connally Bill was one occasion. The other was his application to rejoin the AFL and the destructive effect this has had on prospects of labor unity.

The NMU reaffirmed its support for labor unity on a constructive basis and stressed the need of joint labor action in the 1944 elections.

Another section of the report is devoted to the union's effort to bring about international labor unity. The major section is devoted to stressing the importance of unity with the Soviet trade unions.

Among the union's most important achievement since the last convention the report cites the fight against race discrimination, and the crowning victory when its member, a Negro steward, Hugh N. Mulzac, won the appointment to the captaincy of the Booker T. Washington. The report proudly refers to praise from Negro authorities on the union's uncompromising fight against discrimination.

This part of the report was dramatically highlighted today by the visit and address of Capt. Mulzac. He was received with a standing ovation.

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NEGRO SKIPPER

"Not only America but the people of Africa, Asia and other parts of the world are watching the Booker T. Washington," said America's first Negro skipper. "It is a symbol of the Atlantic Charter."

The growth and consolidation of the NMU was reflected in the financial report submitted by Treasurer M. Hedley Stone. It showed the union's assets up by $248,658.34 within two years, to a total of $559,121.94. A still better indication was the rise in dues income from $979,600.82 for the previous two-year period to $1,524,810.17 for the last two years.

The report showed that the union's success was no less impressive in expansion and improvement of working and wage standards. Success in organizing the tanker companies has reached a point that the union even won the Standard Oil of New Jersey election, which however is still under dispute.

The union has also become the principal factor in manning Army transport vessels after overcoming an earlier anti-union policy. Similar success was reported in the Lakes drive with many firms signed up and negotiations now in progress with Standard Oil of Indiana.

INCREASED WAGES

The report also brought out that wages of seamen have gone up in some categories by as much as 75 per cent in the period since the NMU was born. The improvement was equally significant in the cut of the working day and provision of overtime pay.

A particularly striking section of the report reviews the fight of the NMU for safety equipment and rigid inspection of vessels. The union's dramatic fight which was carried to the public and Congress finally brought a practical conference with the Coast Guard authorities and the application of many of the proposals of the union.

"Today," says the report, "our lifeboats are equipped with the most modern gear, the safest appliances and all possible steps are now taken for the safety of the crew."

Further tribute to the NMU was paid yesterday in the speech of Congressman Schuyler Otis Bland, chairman of the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. Mr. Bland's speech was read for him because he is in a hospital.

"When the history of this titanic struggle is written and its glories recorded," he declared, "the most glorious chapter in the chronicle will be the splendid service of the men of the American merchant marine who have defied death in its most gruesome forms that the nation might live."

JUL 8 1943

Race Unity Pledged By Maritime Union

NEW YORK, July 22 — The Union's "blessings for DISHARMONY in our union. There is no Beaumont in our union. By God, there will never be any race riots in our union. We have proven, and will continue to prove, that men of all colors, races, and creeds can live and work together."

fourth biennial convention of the National Maritime Union, CIO, in session since July 6, adjourned Monday, July 12.

The delegates on the progressive program they had adopted through the most progressive of the Union's history as the Union's pledge (1) First and foremost, to make every effort to win the war. (2) Maintenance of the gains made since the building of the Union. (3) To fight against appease-strings attached to the peat that there are absolutely no pledge.

President Joseph Curran ended his stirring closing remarks with Commander-in-Chief," Curran declared. "We will see to it that our called upon to make, we will allow brown behind de-nothing to interfere with the win-ties with the trade unions here. actionaries in Con-ning of this war."

Curran congratulated the 248 full weight is thrown against y on the political front. "We will see to it as the Soviet Union to establish closer

Curran referred to the Post-War Plan was summed up by Curran in ever adopted by seamen's union." (Curran referred to four main features of that program: to gain adoption against discrimination of any type

"We have said to local fascists. Take a look at our union. There is no Detroit in our seamen.")

DENOUNCES RACE

FOUR-POINT PROGRAM

351-1943

National Maritime Union

Honored NMU Member

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.
JUL 15 1943



The great Negro baritone, Paul Robeson, came this week to the American Theatre Wing Club for Merchant Seamen representing the theatre. He came as an entertainer. But it was discovered, as enthusiastic seamen crowded around him afterward, that he is an old salt himself, member of he National Maritime Union. He is photographed in the library of the club at 109 W. 43rd, which is run by the people of the theatre for the heroes of the convoy. He is, in fact, wearing his delegate's badge to the recent convention of the N.M.U.

JUL 15 1943

NMU to Mobilize City Communities

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Transport and marine unions in New York are carrying the fight against the race-riot inciters to the people in a big way.

Michael J. Quill, international president of the Transport Workers Union; Douglas McMahon, New York president; William Grogan and [illegible] leaders have have rallied the workers against the fifth column lynchers at 16 emergency shop gate meetings since Monday.

Some of the meetings were the biggest shop gate gatherings the union has held in many years.

Many white and Negro citizens, not connected with the transport industry, took part in the outdoor demonstration.

They joined in the cheering as the Transport leaders called on the workers to turn every anti-Negro agitators they found over to the police, the Army and the FBI.

CONVOY HEROES ACT

Many National Maritime Union speakers, meanwhile, have been arousing the people against the lynchers at mass meetings of other organizations in all parts of the city.

Yesterday the New York Port organization of the NMU elected a militant anti-discrimination committee of three, headed by "Scotty" James Edwards, union patrolman, and including Joseph Ramos and Charles Williams, a Negro.

The committee's job is to unite with union representatives from other organizations in organizing mass [illegible] the fifth columnlynchers.

The men who "keep 'em sailing" have just sent a stirring message to President Roosevelt, urging him to speak out against the fascist agents responsible for the Detroit massacre and to bring these enemies to justice.

Otherwise, they said, the "insurrections" of Detroit, Beaumont and Mobile will spread to other cities.

TWU SCOURGES LYNCHERS

The Transport Workers expect to call 10 more big shop gate meetings within the next few days.

The meetings are war meetings.

First comes a report on the union's success in winning $4,000,000 wage increases by a vigorous no-strike policy. Then a denunciation of John L. Lewis and other traitors in the labor movement. Then a report on their [illegible] plans for an offensive against Hitler.

And climaxing everything else is the call to root out Hitler's agents at home.

Quill calls on the workers to turn the Coughlinite conspirators over to the authorities.

And that brings the cheers.

"We can't waste any time in dealing with these enemies," says Quill. "Race-riots are Hitler's most dangerous weapon in America. "We must stamp them out quickly, or they'll spread."

The meeting the union has just held at the shop gates at 148th St. and Lenox Ave. on the edge of Harlem was the biggest held there in eight years. More than a thousand whites and Negroes attended.

'CRUSH THEM,' SAYS QUILL

Now the TWU is planning bigger mass meetings on the street corners in the Bronx and elsewhere.

"This race-riot conspiracy is organized on a national scale," said Quill yesterday.

"It seeks to divide the people and bring [illegible] defeat in this war.

"But the labor movement can crush it. It can crush it by bringing the issues to the people. We can drive out these rats with the people behind us."

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

NMU Proves Mr. Pegler All at Sea

Joseph [illegible] Black, National Maritime Union agent in the Port of New York, said this week of the union's picketing of Westbrook Pegler, World-Telegram columnist: "Our picket line here has served its purpose. We have made plain to the people of New York that Pegler's attacks on the NMU are a compound of slander, distortion, and lies designed to hurt the war effort of labor in general and the NMU in particular.

Not Misled

"We [illegible] above two more letters just received which further disprove Pegler's malicious misrepresentation:"

"This is my third merchant ship to which I have been assigned as Gunnery Officer in charge of the Navy Gun Crew. In all cases the merchant seamen have been most interested in the guns and have all taken battle stations.

"During this last trip we took part in the invasion of Sicily and saw a good bit of action against Axis planes, particularly at night. Without the fine help from the merchant crew who assisted and augmented our gun crews we never could have maintained the rapid rate of fire necessary to defend the ship.

"It has been a pleasure to have been working with the merchant seamen and after watching them perform at Sicily I can assure you that there need be no fear as to the failure of the Allied supply lines. They are doing great work."

T. A. POTTER, JR.,
U.S.N.R.

Spirit Lauded

"On the recent return from the war area of a Liberty vessel operated by us as General Agent for the War Shipping Administration, the Master paid high compliment to his crew, particularly the unlicensed personnel, for the fine spirit and ready cooperation shown in volunteering to discharge ammunition and other explosives at an invasion port.

"The Master further states that the successful prosecution of the aerial bombardment, without asking overtime or other extra compensation, was the crew volunteered to perform war. this work under very trying circumstances and in the face of

"We feel sure will stand out as a shining example of cooperation between members of the Merchant Marine and our armed forces, which is so vitally necessary for your union and our armed forces, which is so vitally necessary for

S. L. N. STOCKARD,
Stockard Steamship Corp.,
General Agent War Shipping Administration, USA.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH
REEL 82

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

NMU Women Question Merchant Marine Group

Mrs. Terry Riggs Penman, national director of the women's auxiliary, National Maritime Union, warned in a statement issued last week that the recently chartered women's auxiliary of the American Merchant Marine, Inc., is a "thoroughly undemocratic, unrepresentative and mysterious body which should be shunned by the wives of all seamen." Said Mrs. Penman:

"The newspapers last Sunday carried news of the chartering in New York State of a women's auxiliary of the American Merchant Marine, Inc., dedicated to the aid of merchant marine men and their families. Mrs. Ida Mae Roll, is described as the founder of the 'Waamms' and the designer of a uniform for its members.

Sponsors a Mystery

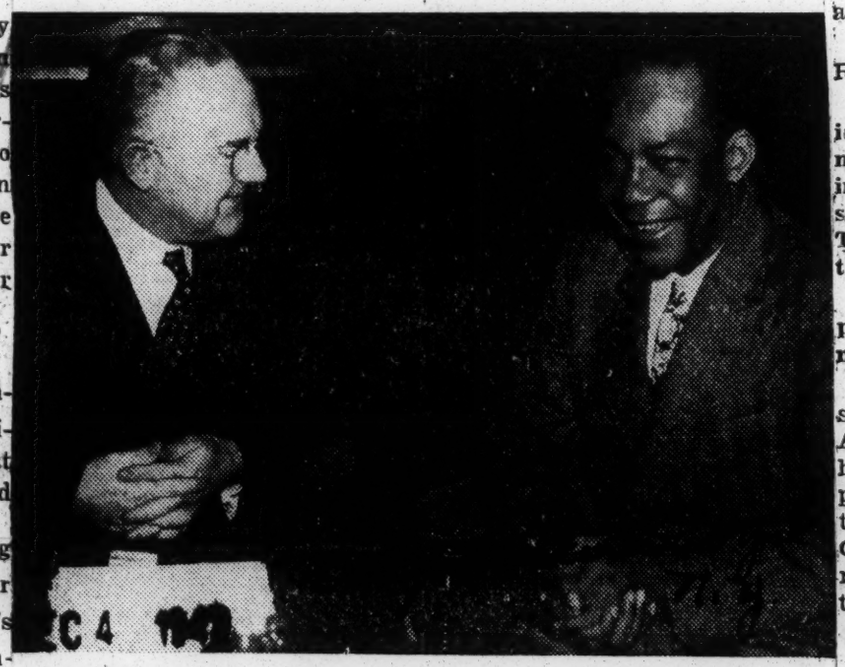
"The newspapers carried no information about how this organization, which has headquarters at 152 W. 42 st, is being financed or who is sponsoring it.

"Mrs. Roll got up at a meeting attended by myself and other members of the NMU Women's Auxiliary and said that all members would be passed on by the FBI. Did the FBI give her this authorization to speak in their name? And what kind of democratic organization is this supposed to be that its members, who are wives of seamen fighting in the front lines of the war, have to be first approved by the FBI?

Negro Women Eligible?

"There has been no statement as to who is eligible for membership in the Waamms. Are Negro women eligible? The women's auxiliary of the NMU has been told that there might be some prejudice against Negroes. [illegible] seamen comprise about 20% of the seamen today.

Combat Race Bias



Mayor Fletcher M. Bowren, of Los Angeles, confers in his office with Ferdinand C. Smith, national secretary of the National Maritime Union, CIO, on methods of combatting Negro discrimination. Smith is on a speaking tour of the West Coast promoting race unity and presenting the CIO program against Jim Crowism, anti-Semitism and other un-American tendencies fostered by pro-fascist elements and the Fifth Column press. Mr. Smith is making the tour under the auspices of the California State CIO Minorities Committee, whose chairman is the prominent Negro labor leader, Revels Cayton, vice-president of the California State CIO.

And to do it we located the poison at its source, says Raymond Gordon. A Negro seaman [illegible] tells of colored peoples in other countries.

By ART SHIELDS

ACTIVE members of the National Maritime Union are death to Hitler propaganda, wherever they find it at sea.

Raymond Gordon, Negro messman, who has just finished a round-the-world war trip, gives a striking example.

"We heard some such anti-Semitic talk from some southern boys in the crew. At the beginning that we looked for the source," he told me.

"We found it at last. George Sylvester Viereck's book, 'My First Ten Thousand Years,' an attack on the Jewish people, was passing from [illegible] in the fo'c'sle and on the bridge.

"No one seemed to know that the author had been indicted as Hitler's agent until we gave them the score.

"Then the book went over the side."

The vicious "Rising Tide of Color," by Lothrop Stoddard, and "Races in Europe" dove into the South Pacific soon after.

Jew-baiting and Negro-baiting began to decline.

White West Australians welcomed the nine Negroes on the ship with [illegible] enthusiasm.

"We were treated as equals and friends," said the colored seaman. "We were welcomed in the finest hotels. We didn't meet the slightest discrimination, except in a few hangouts of American Army and Navy men, where the proprietors kow-towed to the prejudices of the anti-Negro minority."

Australians are great sports' lovers. They were constantly asking the Negroes about Jack Johnson, their favorite old-time fighter, who won the heavyweight title from Tommy Burns in Australia, and about Joe Louis.

But they talked about Paul Robeson ten times as much.

"Paul Robeson is a popular idol," said Gordon. "Folks stopped me on the street and invited me into their houses to hear Robeson sing from phonograph disks. They had many Robeson records that I never heard in America.

"They spoke of the famous people's artist as one of the great men of the world."

Most of the people had never seen a Negro before. And the American Negro seamen, in turn, had never seen the native, black people of Australia, who live in the bush lands far inland. So Gordon hied himself to a native reservation, the Moora River Settlement.

[illegible] things weren't so good.

"The native peoples are dying away," Gordon reported. "Their kangaroos are gone. They are used as cheap farm labor on the lands where they once roamed. They are badly exploited. That's a side of Australia I didn't like."

Back in the city, a strong, progressive union center, with a large Communist Party, the Negro seaman found intense interest in the coming second front in Europe.

"The progressive trade unionists of Australia are not Pacific Firsters," he said. "They understand that Europe is the main battle ground."

* * *

A hot port in Persia, now called Iran, which the seamen next visited, with a Soviet cargo, turned into hell one day, said another crew member.

But the hell didn't come from the heat.

It came from a "White Supremacy" [illegible] a lieutenant in uniform.

"The lieutenant was standing at the gangway one day when several Arab longshoremen quit on account of the heat," said the seaman.

"He asked where they were going. They didn't understand.

"So he began screeming 'Stupid



RAYMOND GORDON

B .. .. .. ds!' and kicking them and beating them with his fists. He kicked and beat half a dozen men."

His stupidity was fatal. More Arabs quit. He kicked and beat others. And more left the ship."

The weapons the Red Army needed were delayed as a result.

The United Nations' war effort was sabotaged by a Ku Kluxer's boot.

And the good will America needs was kicked over the side.

That officer isn't typical of the men in our Army, but the seamen fear he's the only the Arabs will remember.

* * *

Negro Army stevedores from Mobile, New Orleans, Galveston and other southern ports, are doing a magnificent job in Iran, the seamen say.

But they naturally don't like being Jim Crowed in special black barracks. And they'd do still better work if they got their share of time-off for the cool, mountain air of Teheran from the terrible port heat.

The Worker
New York, N. Y.

We Licked Jim-Crow

NATIONAL MARITIME UNION

Maritime Union Proves Negroes And Whites Can Work Together

Kansas City Call

Kansas City, Mo.

SEP 24 1943

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Called to refute the assertions of counsel for the carriers that to mix the Negro and white workers on the railroads in the South would either be utopia, or would lead to violence and injury to the war effort, Frederick N. Myers, vice president, National Maritime union (CIO) took the stand at the FEPC railroad hearing on Thursday morning and declared that his union has "solved" the problem of discrimination through the initiative of the men themselves.

Out of the seven witnesses called up to this point, Myer was the only one to whom Sidney S. Alderman, representing the carriers, sought to block from testifying.

The NMU is particularly proud that it has succeeded in wiping out discrimination, he declared with confidence, in spite of the frequent comment that "it cannot be done," made by the skeptics.

"It is not strange that many American vessels sail out of Baltimore, Norfolk and South Carolina, Florida, Alabama, Louisiana and Texas, with Negro and white seamen," he testified, "men from the south — joining the ships together from these various ports, working together, living together, fighting together, all in the interest of America."

If the problem of discrimination in industry had not been solved in the merchant marine, he said, the result would have been the delay of vessels bringing troops and the material of war to the fronts where they are needed by the army, navy, coast guard and marines all over the world.

Myer said the problem in the maritime industry was solved basically by the American seamen whose best national traditions recognized that denying the right of Negroes to participate in the program and building of our nation has its harmful effects not only on the living standards of white seamen and their dependents, but on the nation as a whole.

Ciggie Firm Gets Lesson: Negroes, Whites Strike

The Peoples Voice JAN 30 1943 New York N.Y.

JAN 30 1943

JERSEY CITY, NJ—Ignoring the racial lines which many reactionary individuals and groups claim are a barrier to successful integration of the war effort, 500 white employees of the P. Lorillard company (cigarette manufacturers) joined 500 Negro workers in a walkout of the plant, 111 First st, here Tuesday, forcing closing of the plant until further notice. Reasons given for the walkout were:

● existence of a pay differential (whites receive almost twice as much in some instances as Negroes in the same classifications).

● existence in the plant of separate cafeterias for Negro and white workers;

JAN 30 1943

● charges that the Tobacco Workers International Union, AFL, Local 218, is dominated by whites, although some Negroes hold key positions in the plant.

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The walkout was the second in two days. Monday, the 1,000 walked out. At a meeting that evening, both groups voted to return to work the next morning pending a conference Feb. 2, with officials of the union, the firm, and the War Labor Board (WLB).

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According to Roy Thomas, head of Local 218, contract negotiations are scheduled to open within a couple of weeks at the plant.

No contract issues are involved in the current situation however, PV was told, the union's primary concern at present being to support the present campaign in Jersey City against discrimination.

2000 on 'Quit' At Steel Plant

P.M. Daily

The Rank and File Lead Walkout Against Crucible . . . Union Keeps Hands Off

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN
Staff Correspondent

HARRISON, N. J., June 30.—About 2000 workers in key departments of the Crucible Steel Co., a major war plant employing 10,000 in northern New Jersey, were on "quit" today. The word *strike* was carefully avoided—in protest against what they said was company "stalling" on grievances.

It was the first such important walkout in this area since the re-passage, Friday, of the Smith-Connally Act over President Roosevelt's veto.

Conscious of the implications of the so-called anti-strike law, the workers straggled out of the plant in small groups yesterday morning because, they said, the company had refused them wage increases or War Manpower Commission releases entitling them to seek work in other plants.

There was no picketing, no demonstrations and, above all, no support of any kind from the United Steel Workers of America, CIO, to which the men belong. Union officials denounced the "quit" as a wildcat, a definition which the men readily accepted during their informal meetings yesterday.

The "quit" is the culmination of a series of sporadic outbursts during the last two weeks. Last week, 200 Negro grinders left the plant in protest against the 78-cent-an-hour wage.

After being given assurances that confidences would be kept and after they had removed their badges, several employes outlined the issues as:

¶ Low wages.

¶ High cost of living.

¶ Wage inequalities. Workers in one building receive 85 cents an hour, while workers in another building, reportedly doing similar work, receive $1.16.

¶ "Improper handling" of grievances and long delays in their settlement.

Meanwhile, Army and Navy spokesmen arranged to address the men at a dawn meeting today in Harrison. It was understood that an appeal would be made for a return to work immediately, after which grievances would be considered.

Company officials would not comment.

JUN 30 1943

Workers Walk Out Against Jim Crow

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

JERSEY CITY,—(ANP)—Fretting under alleged jim crow conditions within the cigaret factory operated by the P. Lorillard Co., 500 Negro workers walked out last week in protest. All operations at the plant were halted when 1,500 white workers were forced to quit work because certain key machinery operated by Negroes was idle.

Later in the day of the strike both groups of workers held a mass meeting in the Polish home near the plant and agreed to "stand together", but decided to return to work next morning pending outcome of negotiations of company officials and the War Labor board in Washington. All the workers are members of Local 218, Tobacco Workers International union, AFL.

Charges that they were being paid less than white workers were made by striking employes, who added that they were forced to eat in one of two segregated cafeterias. They said they were angered also when it was learned that the union had begun negotiations over undisclosed grievances in Washington without their knowledge.

It was revealed that a conference has been arranged for Feb. 2 in Washington where the complaints of the Negro workers will be aired.

FEB 1943

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NEW YORK

Strong-Arm Tactics vs. Free Trade:

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

Company, Drivers' Union Gang Up on Negro Baker

A "perfect understanding" has apparently been reached between the anti-Negro teamsters' union (AFL) and the Fink Baking Company affecting a "squeeze play" to force a respectable Harlem businessman out of the lucrative bread field north of 59 st although the company reaps a sizeable harvest out of the community while giving no real jobs in return. The intended victim of this vicious byplay is Herbert Romero, head of the small baking company bearing his name and formerly manager for the defunct Brown Bomber Baking Company. With the passing of the Brown Bomber from the Harlem scene, Romero decided that Harlem not only deserved a baking company but actually needed one to aid in the solution of the community's pressing economic problem in the job market. Immediately he set out to arrange finances and other details incidental to getting himself started in business as the Romero Baking Company.

He acquired a snappy truck and made arrangements for the Fink Company to bake for him. In the midst of the negotiations to work out details, the bakery decided that it would do business only on condition that it have a 50 per cent share in the business. Romero, who was negotiating for the use of the Brown Bomber name, promptly demurred at this and dropped negotiations.

FINDS, LOSES BAKER

Next step was to accept the offer of a Jersey company which had shown a lively interest in taking the baking contract. However, after details had been virtually worked out, the company mysteriously lost interest. It appeared that they had been approached, as they also asked for a half interest, which Romero refused.

Meanwhile, the Fink Company circumvented the union's anti-Negro membership rule by getting working cards for two men who were supposed to be jobbers. Actually they were two Negro salesmen. They were Eugene Turner and Horace Brown.

It should be pointed out that Romero has repeatedly sought membership or a jobber's card. Both have been denied him on one pretext or another.

By this time Romero had found a bakery to turn out his Champ-a-Bond bread. He had a truck and then attempted to hire the Negro salesmen, who incidentally had worked for Brown Bomber and were close friends. They countered with a proposition that they turn over their routes to Romero on a dollar-for-dollar basis—that is, Romero should pay them the equivalent of the gross turnover of their routes. He pointed out to them that as Brown Bomber sales manager he had gotten the business which they now enjoyed. He turned down the deal.

Here Fink again stepped in and in return for a sharecropper contract made a cash payment deal with Turner and Brown. Romero had taken the bull by the horns and had captured many of the original accounts. This resulted in dissatisfaction all around. The salesman who replaced the Negroes couldn't get the business that Romero was taking and the Negroes couldn't collect their money because the deal was on a provisional basis.

UNION KAYOS BUSINESS

At this point the Union stepped in and told Romero's baker (the Abbott Baking Co.) that they could no longer deliver bread to Romero's company because he was not a union man.

Romero, refusing to be licked, dug up another baker within ten hours.

Next morning when he pulled out of his garage a car that was parked across the street followed him. He drove around the block and returned to the garage; got a length of gas-pipe and went for the car, which sped away.

TRAILED BY FINK

Romero caught the license number of the car which had tried to trail him. The writer investigated the registration.

You guessed it. The car was owned by the Fink Baking Company!

Abbott, having been reminded that there was a contract in force, is once again baking for Romero via a middle-man who cuts into the money for a jobber's percentage to deliver the bread from baker to Romero.

In response to a wire, District Attorney Hogan assured Councilman Adam Clayton Powell that a thorough investigation would be made of the case. PV will watch for developments and keep you posted on developments in the DA's promised investigation next week.

351-1943
The Worker
New York, N. Y.

Fire Workers Who Fomented Strikes

JUN 28 1943

Holding that racial bigotry and intolerance have no place in America, George J. Mintzer, impartial chairman, today ordered the Acme Backing Company of Brooklyn, N. Y., to fire three members of Local 121 of the CIO United Gas, Coke and Chemical Workers of America union on the grounds that they had fomented a strike in a vital war-plant in protest against Negro workers being employed in the plant.

He also recommended that these workers be expelled from the union.

The three men were charged by the management of the company with having promoted a wildcat strike on June 9. The strike took place because a Negro was employed in the warplant.

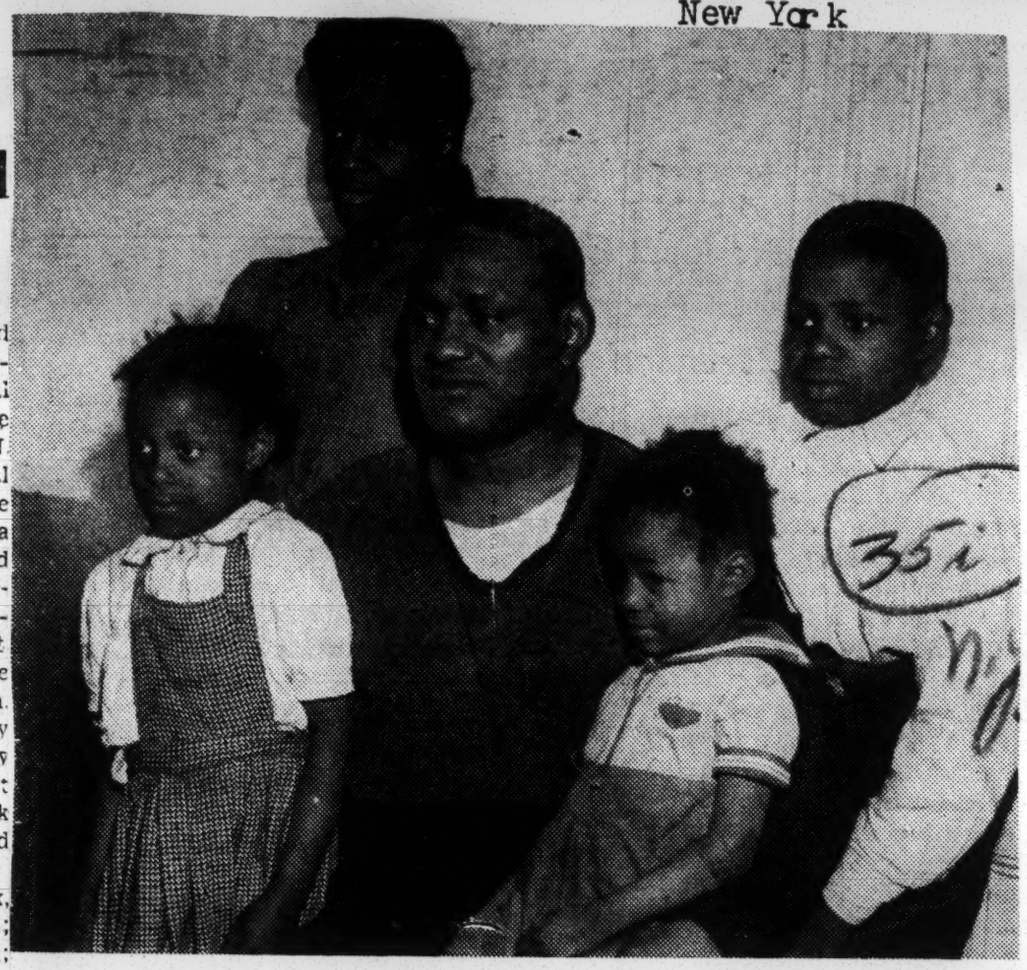
JUN 28 1943

The three union men, Frank Fox, 804 Knickerbocker Ave., Brooklyn; Joe Gerace, 758-59th St., Brooklyn; and Otto Chido, 14 East 21st St., Brooklyn, were shop chairmen and were the leaders of the workers who struck on the grounds that employment of Negro workers would lower the standards and working conditions of other employees in the plant.

JUN 28 1943

Under the contract between the Acme Backing Company and the CIO United Gas, Coke and Chemical Workers of America, all such matters are ordered referred to an impartial arbitrator. Mr. Mintzer was chosen by the company and the union to act as arbitrator in the case. Hearings were held on Friday, June 25.

New York



Segundo Corchado, cause of a Brooklyn war plant strike, is shown here with four of his five youngsters: Maria Theresa, 2; Ethel, 6; Matthew, 10, and Patricia, 12. Julian, 15, was out playing. *Photo by Dan Keleher, PM*

Strikers Close War Plant When Negro Is Kept on Job

PM
New York, N. Y.

Stage Wildcat Walkout When Firm Refuses 'To Get That Guy Out of Here'

By Erwin van Swol

A wildcat strike broke out yesterday afternoon at the Acme Backing Corp., Meadow and Bogart Sts., Brooklyn, over employment of a Negro in the key department.

JUN 10 1943

The plant, holder of Navy contracts which bar discrimination, was shut down at 1:55 p.m.

The Negro with whom the 100 strikers refused to work is Segundo Corchado, 51, of 246 Putnam Ave., Brooklyn.

No Child-Care

Corchado got back to the U. S. A. on Apr. 24, after a hitch that began Sept. 5, 1942, on a freighter which delivered ammunition, tanks and other war material at Oran for the invasion of North Africa.

He returned and found his wife too ill to care for his youngsters, the oldest 15. He wanted to go back to the job of helping ferry supplies to our fighting forces, but found there were no adequate child-care facilities in the Bedford section.

He got the job at Acme Monday. The first day he ran an elevator, Tuesday he worked in the warehouse. Yesterday he was shifted to help out in the spreading room.

The shift was made at 12:30, after lunch. Corchado did not get much chance to show what he could do. When the 35 other workers had finished the jobs in front of them three shop stewards went down to see Everett R. Jenkins, the factory superintendent. They told him:

"Get that guy (Corchado) out of the spreading room. If you don't, we'll quit."

Jenkins replied:

"That man is going to stay there. We have Navy contracts. He's needed. I'll give you 10 minutes to get back to work, or I'll fire you."

The three shop stewards left. At the end of the 10 minutes, all the men in the spreading room, and about 65 others in the plant, which employs a total of about 135 people, had filed out.

Corchado and three other Negro employes were sent home to avoid trouble. They were told their pay would not be docked and that they should report for work this morning.

The firm notified the union, Local 121, United Gas, Coke and Chemical Workers, CIO. Its officials were shocked. The business agent, Leo Velardi, rushed over and pleaded with the men to go back. They refused.

The strikers held a mass meeting in a tavern near the plant.

Leaders Plead

Velardi brought them messages from Charles Schroeder, president of the local, and Martin Wagner, international president.

Schroeder said:

"This stoppage is not sanctioned by the union. It's a direct violation of the policy of the local and the constitution of the international union."

JUN 10 1943

Wagner said the labor organization never before had had a discriminatory walkout. He urged the men to go back.

A merchant seaman told them how badly their work was needed.

The firm offered to take all the workers back and to put the cases of the stewards up for arbitration. The strikers rejected that unanimously. They sidestepped the issue of whether they would work with Corchado, but voted not to go back without the stewards. They said they would be waiting outside the plant this morning.

Schroeder promised that the local would take discriplinary action against the three stewards who called the stoppage.

He said he was amazed by the workers' action, since several hundred members of the local are Negroes and the union has several Negro officers. There never was trouble over a man's color before, he said.

"This union always has been in the forefront in protecting the rights of the Negro worker," he said. "The strikers should go back to work, not be parties to sabotaging the war effort."

AFL-Lewis Showdown Due in School Fight

PM
New York, N. Y. By Arnold Beichman

Six Custodial Workers in Lewis Union

A showdown fight between John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, and AFL unions in New York City was imminent today.

Unless the struggle between both groups is compromised, New York's public schools face a strike by custodial workers—janitors, fireman, elevator operators—which, if effective, would shut down school buildings because of health requirements.

Leaders of the United Construction Workers, a Lewis affiliate claiming to represent 2300 of the 8000 custodial workers, were to meet Sunday afternoon to decide whether to strike.

Equally adamant were leaders of the two AFL unions—Building Service Employes Union and the Union of Operating Engineers—affected by what they called a Lewis "raid." In a letter to Mayor La Guardia, they announced they would help to break any strike called by the Lewis organization.

Pledge

"We pledge and assure you," wrote Joseph J. Delaney and David Sullivan, vice presidents of the AFL unions, "that the schools of our city will be adequately manned and operated and that neither you nor the parents of any child need fear that they will lack proper or clean facilities."

Upon receipt of this letter, La Guardia, who earlier had broken off wage negotiations with the AFL unions because of the Lewis strike threat, announced that negotiations would be resumed on Monday.

In the meantime, Leon Zwicker, regional director of Lewis's construction workers, revealed that his union had signed exclusive bargaining agreements with custodian engineers of two New York schools—Jamaica H. S. Vocational High School and Manhattan.

Zwicker exhibited the stipulation, which he said would lead to a formal closed-shop contract, signed on Nov. 16 by Samuel Hotaling, the high school's custodian engineer, in which the Lewis affiliate is recognized as bargaining agent for workers. Zwicker said a similar agreement had been signed by Edward A. Hawes, of the Manhattan school.

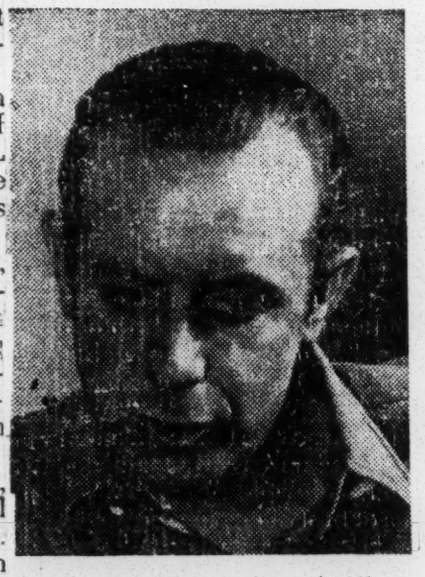
Overshadowing this jurisdictional fight on the New York front between Lewis and the AFL unions was the fact that Lewis now has an application for reaffiliation with the AFL itself. In a letter to William Green, AFL president, Lewis stated two weeks ago that he was willing to discuss all existing jurisdictional questions between any organization and AFL unions before the application was acted on.



Mrs. Evelyn Bergman has been a matron in the City's public schools for 12 years. She started at $75 a month, now she's making $73.25 at PS 40, Q... Her classification as matron is quite fancy name for a cleaning woman.



Robert Johnson, cleaner at PS 67, Bronx, earns $90 a month for sweeping, mopping, dusting. He is married, has a son, now 1A. To supplement his meager wage, he doubles as superintendent for $40 a month in the apartment house where he lives.



Frank Henson makes $115 a month as fireman at PS 118, Bronx. He's been employed for three and a half years. To support his wife and 10-year-old son, Henson, 35, drives a truck, does all kinds of handyman jobs.



Albert Petrone, 60, gets $116 a month as a cleaner at Christopher High School, Bronx, where he's been employed for three years. He's asked for a raise many times, he says, but with no results.

As usual, in the middle of such a battle were the custodial workers, employed at fantastically low wages, lacking the protection of Social Security, pensions, or unemployment insurance. Hired and fired at the whim of their employers, the custodian engineers, these custodial workers have for years suffered under a "padrone" system.



Joseph Knipper, 54, gets $110 a month as a handyman at Jamaica High School. He's been a custodial worker for nine years. Four of his eight children are in the Army. He's ready to strike —"what have we got to lose," he says.



Mrs. Catherine Gannon is a PS 40 matron. Her salary, after 11 years, is $73.25 a month. She is a widow and her wage is insufficient to include her rent. Mrs. Gannon and her daughter live with a sister, who pays the rent for their dwelling.

Photos by Arthur Leipsig and Wilbert Blanche

No Board Power

Although they work in public-school buildings, the Board of Education has no power over custodial workers. The Board gives custodian engineers a lump sum with which they hire workers to keep the schools in good running order. The Board has set up minimum wage scales—running from $65 to $125 a month for a 48-hour week. Beyond that, the Board possesses no supervisory power over the labor relations between the custodian, a Civil Service employe, and the custodial workers, hired by the custodian.

The system has come in for the strongest condemnation by Prof. George Strayer of Teachers College, in a 700-page report made for the Rapp-Coudert Committee.

351-1943
Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

3600 N.C. Tobacco Workers on Strike

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C. — About 3,000 workers of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company who went out on strike last week for higher wages and better working conditions, were still out Wednesday.

Most of the workers, it is reported, are members of the CIO. Some 600 workers at the Brown and Wiggins factory, members of the A.F. of L., are on strike in sympathy, as are about 100 workers of both races employed at the Dyeing Plant of the Hanes Manufacturing Co.

Labor Boards Confer

There has been no violence nor picketing. Officials of the National Labor Relations Board in Washington and representatives of the State Labor Board are conferring in an effort to arbitrate the strike.

It is expected that many of the workers will return to their jobs by the end of this week.

3000 Tobacco Workers Strike

WINSTON SALEM, N. C., July — (ANP) — Fear and anxiety gripped this tobacco city as 3,000 Negro workers went out on strike at the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco company, Brown and Williamson Tobacco company, Mengel Box factory and the Robert S. Lee hotel.

The strikes asked higher wages and improved working conditions. More than 14,000 white workers were forced into idleness because their work was dependent on the colored workers. The strike affected members of both AFL and CIO unions. The companies Thursday have made no attempt to arbitrate the differences.

North Carolina

Tobacco Plant Official Calls Winston-Salem a Powder Keg

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Fears Race Riot When 9,000 Workers Vote on Union This Week; Says Colored Well Treated

By MICHAEL CARTER

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — North Carolina's 45-year-old record of no race riots can be broken in the Camel City, Winston-Salem, on November 11-12 when 9,000 local tobacco workers go to the NLRB (National Labor Relations Board) poll to cast their votes for or against a union.

About two-thirds of the workers are colored and 92 per cent of them are organized.

Until a mysterious citizens' committee was formed, the racial element did not enter the situation. Since then, inflammatory editorials have appeared in both Winston-Salem's papers.

Committee Interracial

The mystery committee, said to be composed of twenty-five white and twenty-five un-named colored citizens, has accused the union of inciting race trouble. Before this, nobody thought of race riots.

Most of the colored citizens will not have anything to do with the mystery committee that is trying to incite [illegible]. Not [illegible] school teachers [illegible] have talked with, and others dependent on the good graces of the city may be coerced into nominal membership, but they really want no parts of the committee.

The Employees' Association, called a "company union" by most workers, is also well received in the press. The association advertises that it is open to white and colored workers, but its office staff is entirely white.

If the association is actually open to white and colored members, then it is the only thing bearing the tobacco plant name which is not jim crow.

Union Blamed for Trouble

The Piedmont Press, and a few white business men who are closely identified with cigarette manufacture, constantly harp on the "good race relations that existed in Winston before the advent of the union."

Marcus Hamm, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, assured the AFRO that there had never been any racial trouble in the city, but that now a riot may be inevitable.

Over at the [illegible] you hear the same story: "We never had any trouble with the 'Nigras.' We treat them well, give them good jobs and never have any trouble with them." Plant management is simply surprised that the colored workers are sticking together.

When you talk to the tobacco workers themselves, you wonder whether or not "good race relations" are not somehow tied up with low salaries and inhuman working conditions.

Bi-racial Union Meets

You also wonder who profits from the accusation that the union is deliberately muddying race relations. The workers alone would lose under riot conditions.

The union operates two offices here. The main office is staffed by whites and the second office by colored. Colored workers are welcomed to either office and regular interracial meetings are held between shop stewards and organizers.

Union meetings are nominally mixed, but most colored workers go to the same meetings. This is partly because all meetings are held on a departmental basis, and colored workers are segregated into certain departments.

Separate Facilities

In tobacco plants, colored workers use separate toilets, separate dining rooms and even separate seats in the employment office.

For some obscure reason, during the first NLRB election, the plant was divided into two units. Colored people predominated in one unit, whites in the other. The union won in the colored unit by about 92 per cent, but lost the other unit.

A second election in which the plant would be treated as a single unit was planned for November 11-12.

Conditions Called Ideal

John Whittaker, booming public relations man for tobacco interests, is the type of man who likes to think he "knows how to handle colored folks." He described the work conditions and pay as ideal.

Whittaker said that the plant had been hiring "Nigra workers since 1875. We used them to stem tobacco, a simple task requiring no intelligence much. They could do the job better than whites, so we used them."

Today, as in [illegible] colored workers are in that department or in the plug tobacco departments. A few operate cigaret machines. All the skilled jobs are done by whites, and all supervisory help is white.

Fears Riots

"The leading Nigra citizens are interested in our work," Whittaker said. "We gave the city a Nigra hospital and three community centers. The leading n—s had better start telling the company's side of the story."

He already had told me that Winston-Salem was sitting on a powder keg. "The union has driven a wedge between these people," he added. "They have never made an appeal to white workers, and I think this will result in a riot. Our colored workers are satisfied. We treat them well. They have good homes, sick leaves and vacations."

Worker Talks

"I have been working in the cigaret factory since I was 7 years old," one worker told me. "Nowadays I get 44 cents an hour. I've never had a promotion, but I got a four-cent a [illegible] raise. I work 47½ hours a week. After five years you get a two-week vacation."

The company uses big, shiny silver dollars to pay off odd dollars in a pay check. "That's because the colored folks like them and they are easy to handle," I was told.

"We take care of them, sick or well. Their average wage is 60 to 62 cents an hour. Whites get the same pay for the same work," Whittaker said.

Woman Tells of Abuse

A woman employee, who has been at the plant eleven years, said:

"In good times I make as much as $23.75 a week; but since the stoppage they cut down my hours, and I get only $21. I am a searcher: I look for twigs and stems in tobacco.

"I have to remove at least one pound an hour. If I don't the captain will [illegible] me. You have to be sick for two weeks before you get any leave. Colored women frequently cry from the abuse they get from their captains."

Whittaker is about fifty years old. He has worked in local tobacco plants most of his productive life. He lives in a mansion on an estate that looks like a park. "Some of our stockholders are colored. We must have a hundred or more Nigra stock holders," he said.

Strikers 'Condemned' For Race-Row Walkout

MAR 18 1943 — MAR 18 1943

Canton, Ohio, March 17 (AP)—The Canton area's War Manpower Committee today unanimously adopted a resolution urging strikers at the Timken Roller Bearing Company's Gambrinus plant to "sacrifice your personal feelings for the duration and return to your work immediately."

The resolution, which declared the strikers "are defying the orders of the Commander-in-Chief, who by an executive order has decreed that there be no racial discrimination," was announced by the commission's non-voting chairman, Harry C. Markle, acting area War Manpower Commission director.

The walkout started Monday over the promotion of twenty-seven Negro workers to machine jobs from sweeping and hauling work, Federal Conciliator A. T. Pinkney said, and the W.M.C.'s regional director, Robert C. Goodwin, declared in a statement issued at Cleveland today that the Negroes had been upgraded in accordance with labor-management agreement and the presidential order. MAR 18 1943

Strikers Condemned.

"Men, today you stand condemned in the eyes of your fellow workers, our neighbors and your friends in that the local War Manpower Committee on which there are twelve leading labor representatives has unanimously disapproved of your action in executive session today," the committee's resolution said.

"You also are defying the orders of the Commander-in-Chief, who by an executive order has decreed that there be no racial discrimination. You are also violating your own signed agreement under which the Negroes involved were promoted. You are also violating the pledge given by the national leaders of organized labor as well as the rank and file of organized labor that there would be no strikes during the war. MAR 18 1943

Called National Issue.

"Do you place your individual prejudices above the united will of our nation to win this war—or do you wish to aid the enemy by continuing to create disunity in our midst?"

Between conferences with workers, Pinkney declared, "The strike has become a national issue and the War Labor Board at Washington is being informed of every detail." Finas Reynolds, president of the C.I.O. United Steelworkers Union, which has a contract with the company, has declared the strike is unauthorized, and said all C.I.O. members participating would be expelled from the union.

A company spokesman, who declined to be quoted by name, said that 338 of about 1,000 employes regularly assigned to the two day shifts were on the job today. MAR 18 1943

Akron Rubber Strike, Baltimore Transit Row Mar Production

By The Associated Press

A walkout of 50,000 Akron, Ohio, rubber workers and a strike vote of transportation workers in war-booming Baltimore complicated the nation's production picture Wednesday but prospects of peace in the coal fields provided an optimistic tone to the overall labor situation.

The stoppage of work in the giant Akron rubber factories, turning out vital war equipment, was a mass protest against refusal of the War Labor Board to grant a demanded 8-cents-an-hour wage boost. The WLB allowed 3 cents. The board bluntly told the workers Tuesday it would not reopen the case unless they went back to their jobs. The CIO United Rubber Workers called an extraordinary meeting of the executive board to consider the situation.

Baltimore transit workers affiliated with an American Federation of Labor union voted to strike at 4 a.m., but at 8 a.m. company spokesmen estimated service was only about 15 per cent below normal.

The strike vote, protesting existence of an independent union and discharge of an employe, followed a work interruption which union spokesmen ascribed to workers attending a union meeting. MAY 26 1943

The union said Wednesday's strike would tie up four-fifths of the city's transportation system, but Wednesday morning the company said "the situation is just about the same as Tuesday." MAY 26 1943

In a similar situation at Utica, N. Y., striking bus drivers voted to return to work pending mediation of a dispute about discharge of workers.

The soft coal wage dispute seemed headed for settlement. The WLB's decision, granting concessions to the miners that would amount to pay increases of more than $1 a day, prompted the United Mine Workers and operators to arrange for reopening of bargaining sessions. MAY 26 1943

In Mobile, Ala., 7,000 Negro workers were called from their shipyard jobs by union leaders after disorders followed assignment of Negro welders to work with whites.

600 Walk Out When Negroes Promoted

MAR 26 1943

CANTON, Ohio.—(ANP)—Protesting the promotion of 27 Negro workers, 600 employes of the Timken Roller Bearing Co.'s Gamgrinas plant staged a walkout last week and tied up operations for a day. MAR 26 1943

The president of the CIO United Steel-Workers union discouraged members of the union from participating in the walkout, and said that those who took part would be expelled from the union. He said the strike was unauthorized. MAR 26 1943

It's Sabotage! 600 Workers Quit Over Promotion Of 27 Negro Aides

Philadelphia, Pa. Tribune

CANTON, Ohio — The promotion of twenty-seven Negro workers was the alleged cause of a walkout by 600 first-shift employees of the Timken Roller Bearing Company's Cambrinas plant, Monday, according to a company spokesman.

The walkout seriously delayed operations in the plant which produces bearing parts for war materials. The local union president asserted that the walkout was started by non-union members. The Negroes were promoted to replace workers leaving the plant for other jobs or the armed service.

The president of the United Steel Workers' Union, C. I. O., which has a contract with the plant, is reported to have declared the walkout was unauthorized, and that any C. I. O. member found to be participating would be expelled from the union. He also stated that the company and the union were in favor of having Negroes promoted, the same as anyone else.

"If the boys in the armed forces are not too good to fight alongside Negroes," he said, "the men in the production line aren't too good to work alongside them."

Pennsylvania

Sun Ship Workers Should Know Facts

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

By W. WHITAKER
Secretary, SSEA, in No. 4 Yard

There are still a few Sun Ship Employees who believe the Sun Ship Employees' Association is a "Company Union." If it is not a "Company Union," they ask, why does it bear the Company's name.

It was named the Sun Ship Employees' Association because its founders had no intention of ever bargaining collectively for anyone except Sun Ship Employees. They also felt that the name of the Company that employed them was good enough for the Union they formed to protect their jobs against the CIO.

The Sun Ship Employees' Association was organized and chartered in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania early in 1937, as a Non-profit Labor Organization, and has been the SOLE BARGAINING AGENT for Sun Ship Employees ever since.

During the time the S.S.E.A. has been the Exclusive Representative of all hourly employees employed or piece-work basis, there has not been a single strike or work stoppage among its members.

The S.S.E.A. is an INDEPENDENT UNION that is operated on the same principles as are all Real American institutions. The most important of all, being the right to work and not have to pay a powerful, entrenched group of leeches, parading as labor leaders, for that God Given Right.

For years, CIO organizers have tried to get Sun Ship employees to join Local 2 by promising them everything in the heavens above, the universe around about and the earth below.

The older men, most of whom have had unpleasant experiences with CIO, pay no attention to their propaganda or their agents or organizers.

There are approximately 34,000 men and women working at Sun Ship at the present time and about 15,000 of them are colored. That will mean about one million dollars ($1,000,000) a year to the "parasites" that are trying to get control of Sun Yard. About half of that amount would be collected in dues; the rest they'll get in assessments, and there's no limit to assessments. This election and all of the money they have spent during the past six years trying to get control must be paid—and they have borrowed a lot of it—and the question is: "Are you going to be one of the suckers?"

When No. 4 Yard is fully manned, they will collect about two hundred and seventy thousand dollars from the colored workers in this yard alone. Now, fellow workers, the C.I.O. was organized several years ago and soon became very powerful. Why didn't the officers force industrial plants in which C.I.O. affiliates had the bargaining rights, to give, at least, one tenth of their skilled jobs to Negroes. We needed their help then, didn't we? But now here in No. 4 Yard, the C.I.O. is not needed. We are encouraged to learn all the trades necessary to shipbuilding, and the rate of pay is as high as that of any other yard and in some crafts it is higher. The rates paid to the colored worker in No. 4 Yard, craft for craft, is exactly the same as is paid in the Central, South and North Yard to white workers, so there is no discrimination about rates of pay.

Don't let C.I.O. propaganda agents fool you—they can't make good on a single promise they are offering. Local No. 2 is fighting for its life now, and they want our help. Before No. 4 Yard was built, we were fighting for skilled jobs and needed their help. They did not help us then, so why should we help them now?

Realizing they are gettinfi "nowhere fast" with colored workers at Sun Ship, C.I.O. organizing agents are desperately trying to trick the colored workers into joining Local No. 2 by getting "self-styled Race Leaders" to come here and sell the idea. Adam Cliayton Powell may be an authority on how to live a life of east, but he certainly can't tell you how to vote where your chances to earn a decent living is concerned Your Economic Future and that of those who come after you for many generations depends on the way you cast your ballot on June 30th.

We have been fighting for Economic Security for a long time. Here at Sun Ship we have a chance to prove our Security in that fight. A. Clayton Powell never worked in a shipyard a day in his life. Therefore, his knowledge of labor consists entirely of "theory." We, the workers must decide from our own experiences here at Sun Ship, that which is good for us.

REMEMBER FELLOWS!! there is "no road back." So on June 30th vote for S.S.E.A. THE SAFE WAY and protect your skilled jobs. If you vote for C.I.O. you will surely lose them. There is not a single employee in No. 4 Yard with any seniority the way the C.I.O. figures the thing out. Your seniority is determined by the length of time you have been in the Union, and not by the number of years you have worked for the Company. By their method of reasoning, those of you who are first class mechanics now, will be common laborers in short order under a C.I.O. Regime!

THINK THAT OVER FELLOWS: VOTE FOR S.S.E.A.—"THE SAFE WAY"—on June 30. 1943.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Shipyard Guard Freed In Slaying

PHILADELPHIA — (ANP) — A navy general court martial last week acquitted James H. Brown, captain of guards in the Sun Shipbuilding and Drydock Company, Chester, on a charge of voluntary manslaughter in the slaying on June 16 of Frank Giddings, 24, one of five workers shot during a flare-up.

Brown admitted firing the fatal shot. The court martial, headed by Commander Stephen Doherty reached its verdict after deliberating twenty minutes. However, the navy action does not prohibit civil authorities from taking criminal action against Brown, but this is considered unlikely since a coroner's jury at Chester exonerated him and four guards, all members of the U. S. Coast Guard temporary reserve, in the case.

Blast Pew Anti-Unionism As Cause Of Shootings

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

WASHINGTON—The basic anti-unionism of the Pew family, which controls the Four Yard of the Sun Ship and Drydock company, at Chester, Pa., was largely responsible for the recent attack by company guards on Negro workers in the yard.

That was the main point made this week in a report issued by George Weaver, director of the National CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination. In his report, based on a personal survey of the situation, Weaver says:

"A pre-view of life under the Smith-Connelly Act was given in Chester, Pa., at the Four Yard of the Sun Ship and Drydock company, the only all-Negro shipbuilding yard in the country. The actors in the pre-view were 5,000 workers, all Negro, and four Negro guards.

"The victims of the pre-view were seven workers, five of whom were sent to the Chester hospital, one of them seriously wounded, all of them with wounds in the back and lower parts of the body.

Conflict With Union

"The background: the fight between the Pew interests and the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America.

"Encouraged by the passage of the Smith-Connolly Bill by Congress, the company decided to get tougher with its workers. The organizing drive of the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers was very successful. Just 12 hours before the shooting, orders were given that there should be no more congregations of workers in the yards.' This referred to a small union meeting during the lunch hour, held in accordance with the Wagner Act.

"The combatants: The Pew family and the CIO Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers. The Pew family controls Chester like a feudal domain. Although none of the workers shot were union members, tension in the yards has been increasing because of the June 30 National Labor Relations Board elections.

"The labor man to be framed: Eddie Abrams, father of three young children and an intelligent aggressive Negro shop steward, who urged the workers to return to their jobs. Abrams was arrested by the guards immediately after the shooting and charged with 'inciting to riot.'

Start Shooting

"A milling mob of 5,000 workers, incensed at the manhandling of guards, threatened to march on the front office to put an end to their difficulties with the guards.

"The mob collected when a guard began shoving around and manhandling a worker who had forgotten his badge. The guard went for reinforcements and returned with Capt. James Brown, appointed to the job a week previously, and two other guards.

"When they grabbed the man again, workers began pouring out of the shipyard canteens and crowded the guards.

"Union leader Abrams jumped up and urged the men to return to work. Some of them did but then somebody in the crowd shouted: 'No, we're going to put an end to this once and for all. On to the main office.'

Then, according to the testimony of the workers in the yard, Capt. Brown pushed the men in the front back, stepped back a few feet and fired one shot into the air. The workers turned and tried to run. One man, 24-year-old Roger Hope, a welder from Philadelphia, turned and tripped over a steel bar. Capt. Brown lowered his gun and shot Hope in the back while he was sprawled out on the ground.

Pew Practices

"The shooting, done in cold blood, was the inevitable outcome of the Pew technique of handling labor disputes. Close to 370 union workers have been laid off in the last two months. Workers, under suspicion of being union members, are trailed on the job by company guards. Six weeks ago a union shop steward was beaten up by the guards. Other workers had complained that guards pulled their guns on them without the slightest excuse.

"Aggravating the conflict between the company and the workers has been the contrast between Pew claims and his practices. Yard No. 4 is the only all-Negro shipyard in the country. Prominent Negroes have been hired by Pew to handle Negro personnel. Negro ward-heelers have been put on the company guards, all of whom, incidentally, are controlled by the Navy Security and are Coast Guard Reserves. Mass meetings have been called in the yard at which Pew-controlled Negro politicians or leaders have extolled Pew's work for their race.

"In contrast with these preachments, has been the unique technique developed by Pew to handle Negro personnel. Most companies hire white guards and use race conflict to keep Negroes in line. Pew doesn't do this. He uses class conflicts between Negroes to keep them in line.

"For instance, the man in charge of Negro personnel is Dr. Emmett Scott of Washington, formerly secretary to Booker T. Washington. His assistant is the famous All-American end, Brud Holland. Bob Montgomery, newly-crowned lightweight champion, is on the company payroll. These men, hoping for a career higher than that of laborer, are pitted by Pew against other members of their race and are used to do the dirty work."

Colored And White Pickets Victors In Memphis Strike

Chicago Defender

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — A week of picketing during which colored and white laundry workers walked side by side in the effort to enforce their demands against the Krause Laundry Cleaners company, Memphis leading concern in that business, ended in success for the workers last Friday, when the War Labor Board agreed to take up their case for union recognition.

Over 183 colored men and women, buttressed by a score of white truck drivers, representing the Teamsters Union, carried out the picketing and strike which lasted over two weeks.

The picketing began early last week. It marked one of the few times in the history of Memphis when colored workers had picketed a white concern for union recognition.

The workers returned to work last Friday when it was indicated that something definite would be done about their demands.

AUG 1 1943

Chicago, Illinois

Memphis, Tenn., Commercial Appeal

October 14, 1943

WORKERS ORDERED BACK

15 Negro Dock Employes Walked Off the Job Monday

Fifteen negro dock employes of the Mississippi Valley Barge Lines who walked off the job Monday have been ordered back to work immediately by the War Labor Board at Washington and officials of the barge line predicted last night that all men would return this morning.

The workers are members of the International Longshoremen's Association (A. F. of L.) and by the walkout halted WLB consideration of a case involving the question of employing nonunion workers by the barge lines. In July, 19 negro longshoremen struck for a minimum of 40 work-hours each week.

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

200 Laundry Workers Strike in Memphis

MEMPHIS, Aug. 12 — (ANP) — Two hundred Negro seamstresses, pressers and spotters, members of Local 303, International Laundry Workers' Union (AFL) began the second week of their strike against the Kraus Cleaners here, seeking union recognition. Twenty-eight white truck drivers went out on strike this week in sympathy with the Negro workers.

United Mine Workers of America

15,000 Alabama Miners Against Return To Work

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier
JUL 10 1943
JUL 10 1943
SEP 5 1943

WASHINGTON, July 8—(ANP)—About 15,000 Negro coal miners in the Alabama field were among the recalcitrants in the back-to-work movement that lasted to the end of the week had failed to end the strike of the United Mine Workers of America, according to a union spokesman here. "We are having a lot of trouble," according to the spokesman. "They just won't go back because they're pretty sore at the administration."

EXCELLENT DISCIPLINE

This spokesman declared that in the past these particular men, all identified with District 20, of which William Mitch is president, had all shown wonderful discipline. He explained that they were prepared to return to work in about a half-dozen mines when the report came over the radio that the President intended to draft men up to 65 years of age.

"This is the first time they have been difficult to handle," the unidentified spokesman said. "They're not only sore, but just as touchy as the Italians and the Slavs up in Pennsylvania."

At the time this comment was being made, there were about 70,000 men still out altogether, and these were in Alabama and the anthracite fields of Pennsylvania.

JUL 26 1943

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

SLAVERY IS BACK SAYS MINE PAPER

SEP 5 1943

By PHELPS ADAMS
North American Newspaper Alliance

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2.—In a lengthy philippic that augured ill for future peace in the coal fields the United Mine Workers' journal called upon its readers editorially today to rise against the industrial, congressional and administration leaders who have reduced labor to a form of slavery only one step above that which prevailed in the days of Uncle Tom and Simon Legree.

Declaring that the "burrocrats" (that is the way the U. M. W. journal's editor spells it) can force a man to work on any job they choose for him, the journal complains:

"They can keep him from getting the job he wants.

"They can determine his rights as a union man.

"They tell him what kind of a union he can join.

"They tell him what part of the country he can work in.

Food Rationing Hit

"They can tell him what kind of food he can eat.

"They can and do regulate what he can spend his money for and how far he can travel in his car.

"If he strikes he can be arrested and indicted for it.

"Except for fact that the politicians and burrocrats cannot sell him on a slave market, the American working man, on Labor Day, 1943, finds taht he is not much freer than Uncle Tom on Simon Legree's plantation."

In tones of bitterness unsurpassed by anything that the C. I. O. has ever managed to offer in its weekly news bulletins, the U. M. W. A. journal goes straight to the point in the opening paragraph, observing:

"For the first time in the history of the United States the American working man, on Labor Day, 1943, finds himself under a federal statute, subject to fine or jail or both, if he so much as suggests to a working buddy that he join in a work stoppage, irregardless of the causes or justification.

Administration Rapped

"This is labors' reward, handed out by the politicians, and being applied by the administration, in return for the rgeatest production record in history. . . "

After lashing out furiously at the President, the Congress, Attorney-General Biddle, the War Labor Board and other administrative agencies dealing with labor problems, the editorial concludes with three paragraphs set in boldface type:

SEP 15 1943

"If labor waits for its freedom to be given back, it may wait in vain. It has been said by many who have studied history, that freedom is something that has to be taken by men who want to be free. No political Santa Claus stocks it in his bag.

"The liberty tree is not a Christmas tree.

"Think, and think hard this Labor Day, 1943. It's your day. Make the most of it."

The editorial may, of course, be bluster and bluff; but it indicates clearly John L. Lewis is in no benign mood.

35i-1943
Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.
MAR 10 1943

Great community experiences like the coming one of a dramatic Red Cross appeal are productive not only of humanitarian aid but of community health. For example, even though some of us don't admit it, nothing more healthful could happen to Birmingham than the recent spectacle of William Mitch handing H. A. Berg a $1,000 check for the Red Cross in the name of the local United Mine Workers of America. It was good for Mr. Mitch. It was good for Mr. Berg. And it was good for the great industrial enterprise we call the Birmingham district. Without regard to the right or wrong of disputes between labor and management, our industrial system is not going to work satisfactorily here or anywhere else in such an atmosphere of hate as existed all over this country before the war. Somehow we have got to come out of the war able to conduct our American disputes and competitions without this hate. And there is no reason why we shouldn't, when it is considered how much union labor and management have in common.

MAR
New York Times
New York, N. Y.

100,000 NEGRO MINERS URGED BACK TO WORK

National Negro Council Asks 'United Nations Victory'

MAY 3 1943

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, May 2 — The National Negro Council, in an emergency meeting today, called on the 100,000 Negroes employed in the struck coal fields to return to work tomorrow as ordered by President Roosevelt.

In a statement which also asked the use of Federal troops to protect the returning miners, the council declared:

"We are not unmindful that the United Mine Workers organization has never drawn the color line and maintained the union free from discrimination between workers, working conditions and pay scales.

"We submit, however, the Negro workers today, everywhere, like their sons, 450,000 of them fighting alongside their fellow-American soldiers and sailors, must stand or fall on the incontestable and absolute power of the Government of the United States and the Constitution."

The council said it hoped "no patriotic miner, regardless of race or any other immaterial consideration, will fail the United States and refuse to heed the plea of President Roosevelt. It said, too, that "we second the command: back to the mines on Monday morning at 10 A. M. sharp, in the name of victory for the United Nations."

MAY 3 1943

CIO Man Says Workers Falsely Advised In Action

MAY 15 1943

Pittsburg Courier
MAY 15 1943

ST. LOUIS, May 13 — (ANP — John L. Lewis was charged with having done a disservice to America and to organized labor in permitting the strike of his United Mine Workers. Accusations were made by William Sentner, general vice-president of the CIO United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers' of America at a conference on Negro problems called Sunday by the union's District 8 at the Pine Street YMCA.

According to Sentner the conference was the first labor gathering in St. Louis in which a major union had brought delegates of its locals together to discuss the special problems of Negro workers. It was attended largely by Negroes and was addressed by several Negro leaders.

MAY 15 1943

Lewis was charged with desiring to "make the issue: the miners against the nation, labor against the President. What a travesty! It ill behooves one man to stand up and say he is bigger than the American movement."

FALSELY ADVISED

Sentner said the miners went out because they were falsely advised that prices could not be controlled.

MAY 15 1943

"If we admit we cannot control the economy of this country, we are admitting democracy cannot function," he said. "England has reduced the cost of living by three per cent in the last year. The people did it. In the face of this, Lewis is saying the people cannot control their own destinies, and I say Lewis lies. I say when he says that, he is doing a disservice to America."

MAY 15 1943

The meeting was attended and addressed by leaders from educational, political, religious and civic organizations. Their talk took the form of answers to the following questions:

"Is the problem of racial discrimination a war prozlem? What do you think of the charge made by employers that the reason they discriminate is because the white workers won't work alongside Negroes? Can Negroes solve their problems as a racial group by themselves?"

MAY 15 1943

WAR OF RACISM

In panel discussions it was widely agreed that racial discrimination is a war-time problem, while there was a difference of opinion as to whether it had been increased or lessened by the war. Alderman Jasper C. Caston said: "I don't think it is a war problem in the sense that the war created or aggravated it. Rather, the war is a discrimination problem, brought on by the nations' persistent refusal to wipe out discrimination in their own midst."

Atty. David M. Grant felt the question had been "pointed up by the war. We'll have to realize we can't live half democratic and half fascist. If we don't have a fascist attitude in the south, I don't know what Fascism is."

MAY

The Rev. Elmer Arndt, professor of the philosophy of religion and Christian ethics at Eden seminary, said: "We will have to defeat jim-crowism, the very spirit we're fighting against in the Axis. Unless we defeat racial discrimination in this war, we will have lost the war. We must do it now, not after the war when the pressure is off and we can find excuses."

Sentner said the question pertaining to the attitude of employers toward white persons and Negroes working side by side was suggested by a St. Louis Chamber of Commerce pamphlet approving segregation. The majority of the speakers agreed white persons have little prejudice against working with Negroes and that employers who make contrary statements are resorting to subterfuge.

David Cohen, chairman of the War Manpower committee of the St. Louis CIO council, said he thought some employers wanted to prevent Negroes joining the same labor unions as white workers.

MAY 1943

DESTROYS RACE PRIDE

Concerning the question whether Negroes can solve their problems alone, Grant said: "No, but it is incumbent upon them to take the first step. One difficulty is the systematic education of the Negro to believe that he isn't any good. According to the text books in the public schools, you'd think slavery was all right with the Negroes. None of the struggle of Negro leaders is depicted. It certainly doesn't tend to make a Negro boy have any pride in his race."

Resolutions passed by the conference included one to ask the War Manpower commission to work out a plan guaranteeing seniority rights in non-essential jobs to those workers who have temporarily left essential jobs, a resolution urging immediate passage of an anti-poll tax bill by congress, and another requesting that a hearing be held in St. Louis by the Fair Employment Practice committee.

Sentner was co-chairman of the conference with Andrew Brooks, chairman of the Negro Victory committee composed of representatives from war plants.

40,000 NEGRO MINERS HIT BY COAL STRIKE

MAY 9 1943

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON, May 6—Nearly 40,000 Negroes were involved in the strike which paralyzed the entire coal industry last week end and which compelled President Roosevelt to take to the air in a special appeal to the miners Sunday night. An estimated total of 480,000 miners were on strike but another 120,000 of supervisory personnel were affected by the shut-down, bringing the figure up to about 600,000.

MAY 9 1943

Mines in the West Virginia area were among the last to close down. It is here that the bulk of Negro coal miners are engaged. In fact, District 17 of the United Mine Workers of America, is the largest Negro element in the union.

Besides West Virginia other Negroes were out in the Alabama area, in Kentucky and some in Pennsylvania. Specific figures are not readily available as to the precise distribution.

Henry "Hank" Johnson, A John L. Lewis lieutenant, could not be reached at UMWA headquarters here. Insofar as Negroes are concerned Lewis has placed more confidence in Johnson than he has in any other one man, and a good deal of responsibility has been handed to Johnson in matters not particularly affecting Negroes as a group.

MAY 9 1943

It was Johnson who helped organizing thousands of Negroes in the coal industry, who later moved on and laid down the organization plan for the Meat Packing Organizing committee in Chicago, and made a contribution in the Steelworkers Organizing committee.

MAY 9 1943

In a talk with Hank" Johnson more than a year ago he told me that it was Lewis who had established the non-discriminatory policy of the Congress for Industrial Organizations, which is now being pursued by Phillip Murray, current president of CIO.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

40,000 Negroes In Coal Strike, 15-Day Truce

MAY 5 1943

Mines In West Virginia Area Last To Close

MAY 5 1943

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—Nearly 40,000 Negroes were involved in the strike which paralyzed the entire coal industry last week-end and which compelled President Roosevelt to take to the air in a special appeal to the minors Sunday night. An estimated total of 480,000 miners were on strike, but another 120,000 of supervisory personnel were affected by the shut-down, bringing the figure up to about 600,000.

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COAL "UNTIL" MINERS REFUSE TO DIG

Men Are Reported "Pretty Sore" at Roosevelt

JUL 16 1943

WASHINGTON, July 8—About 15,000 Negro coal miners in the Alabama field were among the recalcitrants in the back-to-work movement that up to the end of the week had failed to end the strike of the United Mine Workers of America, according to a union spokesman here.

"We are having a lot of trouble," according to the spokesman. "They just won't go back because they're pretty sore at the administration.

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.
MAY 5 1943

15,000 COLORED Steelworkers

Alabama field were among the re-

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

istration."

This spokesman declared that in past these particular men, all identified with District 20 of which William Mitch is president, had all shown wonderful discipline. He explained that they were prepared to return to work in about a half-dozen mines when the reprt came over the radio that the President intended to draft men up to 65 years of age.

"This is he first time they h- been difficult to handle," the unidentified spokesman said. "They're not only sore but just as touchy as the Italians and the Slavs up in Pennsylvania."

At the time this comment was being made there were about 70,000 men still out altogether, and these were in Alabama and the anthracite fields of Pennsylvania.

News
Birmingham, Ala

Alabama Miners Join Nationwide Work Cessation

24,000 Idle In State As Truce's End Closes Shafts Of Nation

Nearly 24,000 men were away from their places in Alabama coal mines Tuesday morning as work whistles sounded in vain at most of this country's government-operated mines and by far the greater proportion of John L. Lewis' United Mine Workers again followed his injunction against "trespassing" on mine property in the absence of a contract.

Expiration at midnight of the twice-extended truce which kept the war vital pits operating despite deadlocked wage negotiations brought no word from the UMW chieftain to his men. But none was needed. He had made clear previously that the miners would not "trespass" when the contract ran out.

Coal was being mined, however at the mines of the Alabama Fuel & Iron Company at Acmar, Margaret and Brooksville, where 1,600 men, not affiliated with the United Mine Workers, reported for the Tuesday morning shift.

Though no final check of the mines had been made early Tuesday morning, officials of the Alabama Mining Institute of the United Mine Workers and of the Government Fuel Administration regional office agreed that Alabama's union-controlled mines were "out" the first morning after expiration of the 15-day truce.

At UMW headquarters in Birmingham, John J. Hanratty, international representative, spoke for the miners to say "we are awaiting developments and only hope something will develop from the Washington conference Tuesday morning."

* * *

ORDERS THAT THE WHISTLES in government-controlled mines should blow Tuesday for the 7 a.m. shift and that "work should be made available to their miners, regardless of status of contract negotiations" were received from H. A. Gray, deputy solid fuels administrator, and announced by Ross C. Smith, regional manager for District 13, Monday night.

First shift to disregard the government call to work was the "hoot owl"—which comes on from 11 p.m to midnight—about an hour before the expiration of the truce.

First reports from the coal fields bore out earlier predictions that production of both soft and hard coal by Lewis' 500,000 miners would halt at midnight.

Although not a strike in the view of the bushy-browned UMW chieftain, who said his men simply would refuse to trespass on mine property at the expiration of a twice-extended contract, the stoppage nonetheless halted the flow of vital fuel to the nation's war-busy industrial plants.

The walkout appeared by late morning to be virtually 100 per cent effective in all fields operating with UMW personnel, although a number of mines continued in production. They are manned, however, either by non-union workers, those affiliated with the AFL Progression Mine Workers Union or with the independent unions.

* * *

AT LEAST ONE EXCEPTION was reported, however. Mines in the Pittsburg, Kan., field, in UMW District 14, reported all men at work except for a 10-man crew of shovel loaders. The number remaining at work was not immediately available.

Soft coal operators resumed their negotiations with Lewis on portal-to-portal pay—chief stumbling block in the contract talks—at 11:15 a.m. neither side had any comment.

The White House was silent, although Mr. Roosevelt in a radio address to the miners and to the nation May 2—a day after he directed Secretary Ickes to take over operation of the pits during the coal crisis—said the war effort "must not be hampered by any one individual or by the leaders of any one group here back home."

The chief executive spoke at that time only hours after Lewis had announced the second extension of the coal truce under which the mines had been operating since April 1—an extension that expired Monday midnight.

That expiration brought no word from Lewis to his men. But none was needed. He had made clear previously that the miners would not "trespass" when the contract ran out.

First reports from the coal fields bore out earlier predictions that production of both soft and hard coal by Lewis' 500,000 miners would halt at midnight.

More than three-fifths of that number, according to The Associated Press, were idle in two states alone. Most of Pennsylvania's 100,000-odd soft coal miners and an additional 80,000 anthracite diggers ignored the whistles intended to summon them for day shift duty. There were no reports of disorders and only scattered picketing. In West Virginia an estimated 130,000 men stayed home.

The Eastern Ohio coal mines employing 16,000 of that state's 21,000 miners also took on a holiday appearance. Tom Starks, UMW representative for District 6, said "As far as I know there's not a mine working in Eastern Ohio."

Starks added that the "general feeling among the miners is that there won't be any work unless Lewis extends the truce or a contract is signed." That seemed to sum up the situation everywhere.

* * *

FIRST REPORTS indicated at least 25,000 men were idle in Kentucky, 13,000 of them in the Harlan area where the only mine operating was the International Harvester pit at Benham, employing 650 members of the Progressive Miners of America.

Fifteen thousand of the AFL-affiliated Progressive Mine Workers also remained on the job at 135 Illinois mines, recently released from government operation because of a union no-strike pledge, but 200 other mines were closed as the state's 25,000 UMW members stayed away. There were no reports of trouble at any of the mines.

Coal also still was coming from two Virginia mines, at Clincho and Dante, where the approximately 2,000 employes of the Clinchfield Coal Company are members of an independent union. Elsewhere in that state, however, reports showed a virtually complete stoppage by the estimated 18,500 organized miners.

Alabama reported three non-union mines still in production but they represented only 2,000 of that state's 24,000 miners.

One non-union mine in West Virginia, employing 900 men, also continued operations.

Secretary Ickes, boss of the government-operated mines in his capacity as fuel administrator, reported meanwhile that as of a month ago the nation had an average of 45 days' supply of soft coal in stock piles aggregating 78,665,000 tons, an increase of 1,373,000 tons over April 1. He attributed the gain during April to a lower consumption rate due to seasonal influences.

Bituminous production for the week ended May 23 totaled 11,570,000 tons, compared with 12,300,000 tons in the previous week. Mines said the decrease was due to floods in the Midwest.

Anthracite production for the week ended May 22 was 1,261,000 tons compared with 1,420,000 tons a week earlier. He did not account for that slump.

Washington and the rest of the country waited tensely to see what action a government at war would take to protect its interests as nominal operator of the mines. Without coal, the output of war factories is threatened.

* * *

HERE IS THE SITUATION at a glance:

Kentucky—Twelve thousand men failed to report for night work in the Big Sandy field of Northeastern Kentucky after 800 walked out in four southeastern pits Monday. Harlan County, with 13,000 miners, was counting on being idle.

Pennsylvania's 1,600 soft coal mines took on the appearance of a Sunday holiday Tuesday as the men who work them, more than 100,000 strong, stayed away in protest against failure to get a contract with the operators.

There was scattered picketing in parts of the vast fields.

At most mines the operators went through the routine of starting a normal work day. Work whistles tooted on schedule, notices were posted stating properties were open for operations six days this week, and American flags—signifying the pits were under government operation—were hoisted at sunrise.

West Virginia — Six hundred mines, employing 130,000, went idle after only the necessary maintenance men reported for the night shift.

Virginia — Absenteeism hit the night shifts and gave the impression, unofficially, that the state's 20,000 would stay home.

Ohio—Union men predicted a shutdown in Eastern Ohio which employs 16,000 of the state's 21,000 miners.

Tennessee—District UMW headquarters said the decision here was awaiting word from New York City. A spokesman for the Tennessee Products Corporation, mine operators at Whitwell, said he was not expecting the company's 800 men Tuesday and that only a few showed up for the night shift.

Alabama—UMW officials forecast a walkout of the state's 24,000 soft coal miners. It started Monday night with a strike by 900 at two shafts who refused to work without a contract.

Arkansas—The situation here developed slower than in other areas because the mines of Arkansas do not operate night or early morning shifts.

Colorado—Speaking for the West and Alaskan territory, a federal coal mine manager said he was reasonably sure a large number were determined to stay off the job.

Illinois—Miners worked right up to the midnight deadline, but Fred S. Wilkey, secretary of the Illinois Coal Operators Association, said it looked to him as if the men were all set to lay off work.

Indiana—Unofficial reports had the state's 7,000 miners ready for a strike.

New Mexico, Wyoming, Utah and Montana — Approximately 16,000 miners expected to quit work.

* * *

THE UNION PERSISTED officially in its position of past controversies—that no strike was called. Lewis' aids said that it was up to the individual miners whether they reported to work or not. In the hard coal fields of Pennsylvania, "no contract, no work" signs illustrated how they felt.

An aura of mystery attended the overnight development of the work stoppage when Lewis spent about an hour on one of the upper floors of a Washington hotel and appeared in the lobby shortly before midnight with the terse announcement that he was going home to nearby Alexandria, Va. He refused comment, declining to say whether he had been conferring with anyone. He brushed away questions on reports he had spoken with Secretary Ickes, who has been operating the mines for the government, or Interior Department officials.

The mine chieftain's final "Good night" dispelled last-minute hopes for some development that would avert a shutdown. Operators and miners engaged in the negotiations had recessed at 5:30 p.m. to meet again "at the call of the chair." Informally, the miners heard that something would be done about 8 o'clock. About that time, Ezra Van Horn, chairman of the joint Appalachian conference, said the recess was extended until Tuesday.

A group of miner representatives called on Van Horn and Charles O'Neill, also an operator representative, in their hotel, held a hushed conversation in the corridor, and then walked off without comment.

A LAST-MINUTE APPEAL from Secretary Ickes was thus ignored. Ickes, acting as fuels administrator, urged in telegrams to Lewis and Van Horn that some kind of an agreement be reached quickly.

Hub of the argument has been the UMW demand for a pay increase of $2 a day. The War Labor Board turned this down but recommended pay for underground travel and company-financed equipment that would give the miners approximately $1 a day more.

Unofficially, it was reported that the operators had sounded out government officials on the prospects of getting a coal price rise in the event they agreed to a substantial pay boost for the miners. Whether these feelers actually reached high quarters or how they were received could not be ascertained.

Some sources said, however, that this approach was of prime interest to operators who had divergent financial interests — steel, railroads and other users in addition to coal. They were represented as feeling that a wage concession inas a basis of settlement, but the mines would have to bewhether this was revised in any matched sooner or later in theirway during the last-minute conferother pursuits. ences could not be ascertained.

Lewis was reported by a trust- Though the walkouts affected the worthy miner source as refusing toanthracite area as well, the stale budge from his original demand ofmated negotiations applied only to $2 a day increase. This represents the soft coal wage dispute. A union compensation for 90 minutesource said, in fact, that negotiatravel time a day at time-and-a-halftions with the hard coal operators rates. The operators had offered were tentatively scheduled to reto pay for 48 minutes, about $1.20, time in New York on Wednesday.

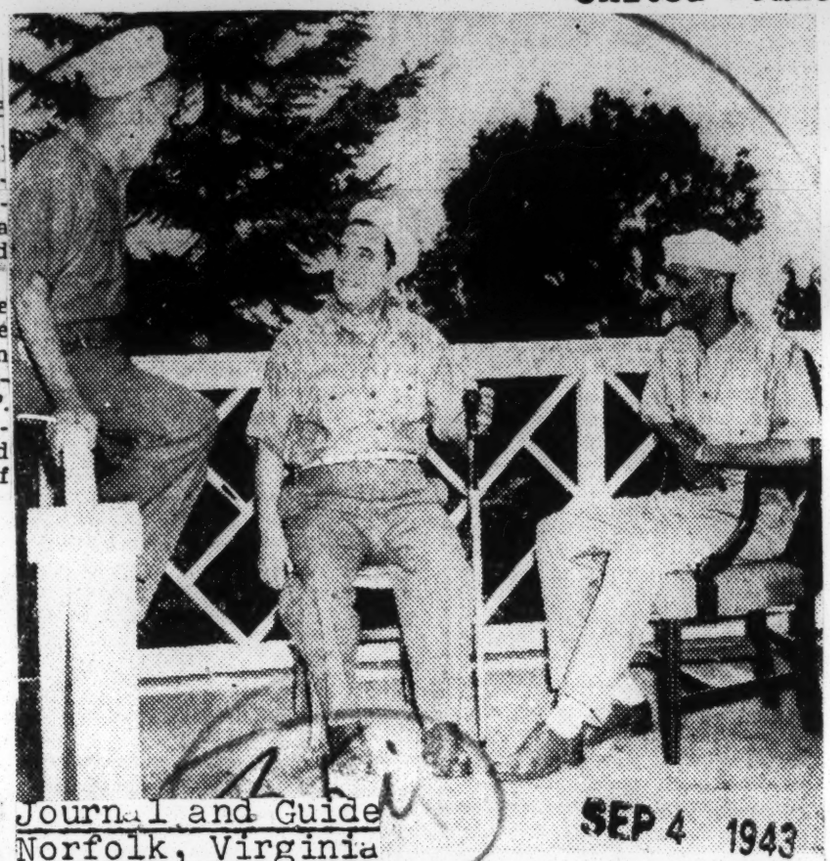
DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 82

Mobile, Ala. Register
October 28, 1943

Plan Residential Club For Negro Seamen Here

Plans to establish a residential club for negro seamen were disclosed here Wednesday with announcement of the formation of a colored committee of the United Seamen's Service.

O. B. Cloudman, chairman of the Mobile port area committee of the U. S. S., said work toward creation of the seaman's unit was progressing rapidly, and that Douglas P. Falconer of New York, U.S.S. executive, would meet with the colored group Saturday for a discussion of the matter.



Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia
SEP 4 1943

SEAMEN'S REST CENTER—The Oyster Bay Long Island, N. Y., former home of Kermit Roosevelt is now a rest center for rehabilitating American merchant seamen, regardless of race or color. The home is operated by the United Seamen's Service, a member of the National War Fund. The fund is seeking funds for war relief related agencies, in cooperation with united community campaigns.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

300 Walk Out As War Plant Hires Negro

MAR 16 1943

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By the Associated Press

Wheeling, W. Va., March 15.—Three hundred employes of the J. L. Stifel & Sons' Calico factory at Wheeling went on strike today because a Negro had been hired, Plant Manager Warren Chapin reported.

The official stated that the concern has been working full time on war orders, and less than a year ago the plant was given a combined Army-Navy "E" for its production.

A conference of the management and worker representatives was called for this afternoon.

600 Timken Workers Out

Canton, Ohio, March 15 (AP).—A walkout by 600 first-shift employes tied up operations today in the Timken Roller Bearing Co.'s Gambrinas plant, a company spokesman reported.

Finas Reynolds, president of the C. I. O. United Steel Workers Union which has a contract with the plant, said the walkout was unauthorized and that any C. I. O. member participating would be expelled from the union. Reynolds and the company spokesman, who declined to be quoted by name, said they were informed the men were protesting promotion of 27 Negro workers.

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The company reported the Negroes had been promoted to replace workers leaving the plant for other jobs or for armed service.

"We are in favor of having Negroes promoted, the same as anyone else," said Reynolds. "If the boys in the armed forces are not too good to fight alongside Negroes, the men on the production line aren't too good to work alongside them."

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The local union president asserted the walkout was started by non-union members, and added:

"The strike is not sanctioned by the International Union. Every C. I. O. member who took an active part in it will be expelled by the union."

35i-1943
The Northwest
Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

27 RACE WORKERS FLATLY REFUSE TO WORK UNDER ANY AMERICAN ISOLATION PLAN BY UN-AMERICAN CO-WORKERS

By A Staff Reporter

The startling, dramatic story was told to your reporter by a committee of three. In their hands 26 other Race employes who flatly refused to continue working under conditions instituted by 7 un-American agitators, rested their final decision.

The committee representing the workers was headed by Mrs. Marjorie Pitter. Petite, quick witted, very intelligent, fully armed with ever ready answers. Her battle slogan was unconditional surrender. With one accord 26 stepped forward. They made no move, nor uttered one word. They pledged their all to their Joan of Ark. Mr. David Reese and Mr. Enoch completed the committee.

"We believe in our President, we believe in the American Way of life. Sunday we joined the nation in celebrating "I Am An American Day." Monday morning we came to work found signs indicating separate toilets and rest rooms for whites and colored. Of course we protested and the signs were removed by a guard, we returned to work. Again they were tacked up. We protested to the superintendent of the foundery. He told us the signs were ordered put up by higher officials and would remain. We declined to work.

Tuesday we visited the Vice-president of the company. He told us the signs would remain that it would be the policy of the company for a few days. He further claimed the Union had asked for them, and the Union would have to order them down. We then called in the Union representative denouncing the action as contrary to the Union rules. The union representative agreed and contacted the officials. We agreed to continue work with no signs.

Thursday the signs were removed but a separate rest room was designated for the men.

The entire action was condemned by the Union.

Friday we reported for work but some one had cut off the power. A Navy official accused us of stopping production work. The blunt reply was: The man who ordered the power cut off is the individual who stopped production. **That was also the verdict of another naval officer.**

In a final effort to continue production under orders of President Roosevelt, we appealed to the War Labor Board. They unhestitatingly sustained our position and called in the vice president of the company, and the shop committee for a conference with the folowing decision:

There shall be no discrimination in the policy of the company. There shall be no discrimination in the policy of the union and all workers were requested to return to work Monday.

This racial flare-up was the work of a sinister group of 7 men led by one J. Columbo whose very name indicates at best a hyphenated citizen. He did not appreciate skilled Negro workers who had spent years at their trade receiving a higher wage than many whites.

More than half of the Negro workers were recruited in the east.

Washington

Treasurer of the Boeing Union, stated that the only "whites" were allowed in and since they were only required to pay the $3.50 for the first year, and thereafter $1.50 a month, he did not see where the employees were dealth unjustly with.

However, it was explained by one of those terminated that the employees are dissatisfied because thy are discriminated against by the ban of the Union on their membership since they rarely stay on the job for the one year period. Thus a large turn-over in the course of a year would net a large sum at $2.50 per head.

The Northwest
Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

FIFTEEN BOEING EMPLOYEES FIRED

Fifteen employees of the Boeing Aircraft Company were fired July 22 and 23 because they would not continue to pay $3.50 a month permit fee to the Aeronautical Mechanics Union Local 751.

Mr. Bull Winkle, Secretary-